

SacredHeart^{UNIVERSITY}

SUMMER 2014 :: IN THIS ISSUE :: 02 FROM THE HEART 10 GRADS CELEBRATE THE PAST 24 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCLUDES 30 MEDAL WINNERS



bright futures

COMMENCEMENT 2014

:: FROM THE PRESIDENT :: IN HIS WORDS ::



As I watched the proceedings, I was struck again by just how special Sacred Heart is . . . I am incredibly proud to be the president of a community like this one.

A large portion of this issue is devoted to our Commencement activities as more than 1,600 graduate and undergraduate students received degrees and certificates in May. Commencement is always a time of both endings and—as the name implies—beginnings. That was especially true this year.

Not only did this year's Commencement exercises mark the end of our year-long celebration of SHU's 50th anniversary, but it was the first time that our Board of Trustees has voted to award more graduate degrees than undergraduate. It was also the first time we held the ceremonies off campus at the Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport.

While there were mixed feelings about moving Commencement, the feedback we received afterwards was all positive. We heard that the venue was comfortable, accessible and conducive to viewing. More family and friends were able to attend and, while the weather turned out to be beautiful, we did not need to worry about rain, cold or excessive heat and humidity. Congratulations to the provost, the Commencement Committee and the many volunteers from the SHU community who ensured that the day was perfect for the graduates.

One of the highlights of the exercises was the participation of 44 alumni in the procession as part of the 50th anniversary celebration. There were representatives from our first graduating class on up through the years to some of our most recent graduates. They have seen a lot of changes at SHU, but one thing



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CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013

has never changed: the mission on which this University was founded. Our alumni and our graduates were shining examples of our ability to educate individuals who will make a difference in an ever-changing world.

As I watched the proceedings, I was struck again by just how special Sacred Heart is . . . from the alumni who joyfully came back to celebrate our history and the faculty hugging and congratulating the students to the family and friends who proudly filled the arena and, finally, the graduates themselves who will represent Sacred Heart and all it stands for as they make their mark on the world. I am incredibly proud to be the president of a community like this one.

With best regards,

John J. Petillo, Ph.D.
President

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ON THE COVER

During Commencement weekend 2014 are, clockwise from left, the 50th anniversary alumni procession, undergraduate Alison Cubbellotti, a creative cap at the graduate ceremony and a sea of undergrads with their diplomas.

Sacred Heart University magazine is published by the Division of Marketing and Communications. Every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy and completeness. All cities and towns mentioned in this magazine are in Connecticut, unless otherwise indicated.

Opinions expressed in this publication may not necessarily reflect those of Sacred Heart University, its faculty or administration.



Features



A Commencement Like No Other

For 2014 grads, graduating during our 50th anniversary celebration provided a time to reflect on how they, like Sacred Heart, are passionately prepared to meld past experiences with bright futures.



Missions with Heart

Our students are wholeheartedly committed to community service. This year, dozens of volunteers spent spring break helping others in the U.S., El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Haiti and Mexico.



Discovery Gala

Our record-breaking 25th annual Discovery Scholarship Gala raised \$750,000 for scholarships—to the tune of “Surfin’ USA.”

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Moving the University community forward with gifts, giving and advancement.

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Catch up with old friends: who's doing what and where they are now.



Rumpf Named Executive Director of Horizons Program



Jeffrey N. Rumpf has been named executive director of the Horizons Enrichment Program, an educational outreach organization working with kindergarten to grade 12 students from low-income families. In this role, he will be responsible for overseeing all Horizons activities and operations, including hiring and training program staff, developing and implementing fundraising goals, overseeing academic programming and broadening the organization's base of support. Most importantly, he will develop and enhance relationships between

Sacred Heart and the students and their families who take part in the Horizons program. He will also develop relationships with Bridgeport public and parochial schools and other community organizations.

"I'm most looking forward to working with the kids," says Rumpf. "It's all about providing them with opportunities so that they can have the 'American Dream' just like the rest of us. Sacred Heart is the perfect place to cultivate such a leading-edge program because of its emphasis on social justice."

Rumpf has extensive experience working in the nonprofit world, primarily in the areas of fundraising, program planning and advocacy. He has worked as an executive director for Clearwater, an organization dedicated to environmental education, located in Beacon, N.Y., for almost six years, increasing their annual revenue by 100 percent and raising \$4,000,000 in capital. He has also worked with Crossroads for Kids Camps in Duxbury, Mass.; CYO Camp Mara/Blair Lodge in the New York metro area and the YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester in New York.

Rumpf earned a master's degree in outdoor teacher education/adventure-based counseling from the University of Northern Illinois-DeKalb and holds a bachelor's degree in environmental education/anthropology from State University of New York (SUNY) at Purchase. He holds various certifications, such as YMCA Executive Leadership certifications and American Red Cross First Aid Wilderness, First Responder and Lifeguard certifications.

Through his work with Catholic Charities, Rumpf knew that the Horizons program had a great reputation. His mentor, Pete Seeger, was the one who encouraged him to join the growing Horizons program at SHU. "The Sacred Heart community has been wonderfully welcoming," he says. "I'm looking forward to having the opportunity to strategically plan and build a program for kindergarten through grade 12 students that will eventually get them into great universities such as Sacred Heart. My philosophy is 'think globally, act locally,' and SHU is the perfect community to help support this philosophy." ☺



Horizons Teachers Honored for Excellence

Horizons National recently announced that the winners of its annual Lyn McNaught Excellence Award are two teachers from its chapter at Sacred Heart University. The honorees are Stamford's Jessica McNell and Torrington's Brad McGuire, a kindergarten teacher and athletic director, respectively, at Foote School in New Haven. McNell and McGuire have been the lead teachers for SHU's Horizons Enrichment Program since it was founded in 2012. Previously they worked with the Horizons program at Greens Farms Academy in Westport.

"We couldn't be prouder of them," says Mary Lou DeRosa, the University's vice provost for Special Academic Programs. "Jessica and Brad came to us with so much experience and such a passion for this work of helping children, and they have been perfect role models for the young teachers coming out of our Isabelle Farrington College of Education."

SHU's Horizons program welcomes low-income students from Bridgeport public and Cathedral Education Cluster schools to its campus for six weeks in the summer. The students, many of whom are the first in their families to step onto a college campus, are exposed to high-quality academics with arts, sports, cultural enrichment and confidence-building activities.

"What I love about Horizons at Sacred Heart is that it's a full-family program," says McGuire. "We try to have a lot of contact with the parents. Because of that, the parents greatly support the program, the teachers and the mission. That makes it a very positive and successful environment, because we're all working together for everyone to be successful."





ABOVE Jessica McNell, right, with Horizons students.
AT RIGHT Brad McGuire teaches class.



McGuire says another pillar of the program's success is that SHU provides a high ratio of instructors to students. Each classroom is led by four teachers, including interns and participants in the Today's Students, Tomorrow's Teachers program.

McNell says that she and McGuire were surprised by the award, because they didn't even know it existed. "Besides, we don't do this job for a prize," she says. "Every single day is a prize for us. It's an amazing day when you come in with a smile and you leave with a smile, and that's what working with these students gives us."

She attributes much of the program's success to support by the University community. "Everybody from President Petillo to the people who clean our rooms at the end of the day—everyone welcomes these kids," she says. "When you're working in higher education, you're not expecting to see

kindergarteners running around your halls. But everybody makes the kids feel at home. It's such an incredible environment."

Headquartered in Westport, Horizons is a national educational summer enrichment program serving low-income public-school students with a broad range of academic abilities. At the heart of every Horizons community is a partnership with independent schools and/or colleges, local schools and the Horizons program. Given an opportunity to attend for nine consecutive summers, Horizons students grow in skills and confidence, returning to their own schools each fall better prepared.

The award is named for Lyn McNaught, Horizons National's founder and first executive director. She is the former executive director of Horizons at New Canaan Country School, a position she held for 27 years. ☺



Horizons Program Receives \$12,000 Grant

The Inner-City Foundation for Charity & Education recently approved a grant request for \$12,000 to SHU's Horizons Enrichment Program, offering academic programming for both Saturday camps and summer sessions on Sacred Heart's campus.

This grant will be disbursed in July 2014 to help fund the program's costs. In awarding grant recipients, the Inner-City Foundation for Charity & Education looked for agencies and institutions that work to improve the lives of at-risk and needy children and adults living in Fairfield County.

"In light of the troubling economic climate, not every agency or institution that applied for this grant was approved. The University appreciates the grant and is looking forward to another successful year of the Horizons program," said Jeffrey N. Rumpf, executive director of SHU's Horizons Enrichment Program. ☺



WCOB Among Bloomberg Businessweek's Top U.S. Business Schools

John F. Welch College of Business has been included on *Bloomberg Businessweek's* list of top U.S. undergraduate business schools. A total of 132 U.S. undergraduate business programs are included in the 2014 *Bloomberg Businessweek* rankings, which are based on five components: student assessment, academic quality metrics, employer opinion, median starting salary and a "feeder school" score that reflects how many students undergrad programs send to top MBA programs. The WCOB was also included in the Princeton Review's *Best 295 Business Schools—2014 Edition*. ☺



From left are the 2014 SHU Media Exchange moderator Dario Melendez and panelists Ebong Udoma, Katie Burke and Paul Pabst.

Third Media Exchange Focuses on CT Media

SHU hosted its third annual Media Exchange on May 29. This open forum between media professionals and the public is produced entirely by graduate students in the master's in communication program. ESPN anchor and SHU alumnus Dario Melendez moderated the most recent exchange, which focused on the expansion of media and minds in Connecticut's Creative Corridor. The panel included Katie Burke, executive vice president of Marketing and Communications at Nielsen; Ebong Udoma, senior reporter at WSHU; and Paul Pabst, executive producer of the *Dan Patrick Show*. ☺



New Learning Lab Program Is Win-Win for Businesses and Students

The Problem-Based Learning Lab, launched in January through the John F. Welch College of Business, is now working with regional clients and seeking corporate and community partners to submit potential projects for fall 2014 and beyond. Announced in fall 2013, the interdisciplinary, experiential learning program was designed to expose students to real business problems. The program targets community organizations and businesses looking to address growth and marketing opportunities, enhance or influence public perception, develop new business models and implement innovative action plans. ☺



Career Fair Draws 90 Potential Employers

Another spring, another successful career fair in the William H. Pitt Center. More than 90 employers from a variety of industries participated, including Aflac, Enterprise, BMW of Ridgefield, the United States Secret Service, Bridgeport Public Schools and Morgan Stanley. All students and alumni were invited to attend.

> [View photos from the Career Fair.](#)

Building a Tradition with Customized Flags

In celebration of SHU's 50th anniversary, hand-sewn appliqué flags will be displayed in front of the William H. Pitt Center and at the front entrance of the main academic building on the Fairfield campus. The flags were the brainstorm of President John J. Petillo and were designed by Director of Graphic Design Jennifer MacLeman. Four flags were commissioned; another two will be used for formal University occasions and convocations.

The University also commissioned a new mace to be used during formal ceremonies. The 54-inch rosewood mace made its debut during the Special



50th Anniversary Convocation in September to help signify the growth of Sacred Heart as well as its continued commitment to tradition and academic rigor.



SHU Among Top 20 Graduate Schools for Game Design

Sacred Heart University is number 17 on the Princeton Review's list saluting the best graduate schools to study video game design for 2014. Compiled by the Princeton Review, one of America's best-known education and admission services companies, the 2014 list names 25 graduate schools in rank order. The Princeton Review chose the schools based on a survey it conducted of 150 programs at institutions offering video game design coursework and/or degrees in the United States, Canada and some countries abroad.

Maheedhar Chintakinthi, right, and Sudheer Kumar Poluru are both students in the graduate game design program.

Nationally Recognized Anti-Binge Drinking Campaign Comes to Campus

Students are teaching their peers about binge drinking through on-campus events showcasing humorous messages about the negative social consequences of overconsumption. The campaign kicked off on February 6 during the Pack the Pitt event in the William H. Pitt Center. Implementation of the LessThanUThink campaign is intended to raise awareness of the negative social and physical consequences of binge drinking as a way of encouraging students to make responsible decisions concerning alcohol consumption. ☺



Students help to promote the LessThanUThink anti-binge drinking campaign.

JedCampus Seal for Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Programs Awarded

Sacred Heart University was recently awarded the JedCampus seal for its mental health and suicide prevention programming. Mary Jo Mason, assistant dean of students for Wellness and director of counseling for the University's Wellness Center, along with the rest of the staff, has worked hard to build up these programs on campus and was urged by several partner organizations to apply for this honor. This recognition of a school's commitment to the emotional well-being of its campus is valid for two years. Sacred Heart was among 42 schools recognized for commitment to providing comprehensive mental health programming to its student body. ☺





40-year honorees Al Wakin and Roberta Staples cut the 50th anniversary cake with President Petillo during the Founder's Day celebration.

Annual Founder's Day Celebration Takes Place

SHU's annual Founder's Day celebration is always an important commemoration of our beginnings and a celebration of those faculty and staff members who have dedicated a large chunk of their careers to this University. This year, we continued our year-long 50th anniversary celebration by awarding the prestigious Bishop Walter W. Curtis 50th Anniversary Medal to five staff members (four current and one retired). The medals go to individuals who embody central elements of the University's core values in their lives. The honorees were Cynthia Conte, Denise Tiberio, Jamie Romeo, Tavares Tuck and retired staff member Nancy Sidoti. Congratulations again to these deserving employees.

We also honored 73 staff members who have served at SHU for 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years. Special thanks and congratulations to our two 40-year honorees, Roberta Staples and Albert Wakin. The festivities concluded with a reception and a special 50th anniversary cake and champagne tower!

> [View additional photos from Founder's Day 2014.](#)



Professors Gary Austin and Donna Bowers hood Amy Tran during Graduate Commencement.

Amy Tran Receives American Physical Therapy Minority Student Scholarship

Amy Tran '14 has received the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) \$5,000 Minority Scholarship Award. Tran, who is originally from Vietnam, applied for the scholarship in the fall of 2013. Each year the APTA selects one winner from highly qualified applicants across the nation to acknowledge and reward demonstrated participation in minority affairs, activities and services; the potential for superior achievements in the profession of physical therapy; appropriate display of professionalism as a future physical therapist, and academic excellence. Tran was nominated by Professor Gary Austin. ☺



Conor Gearty is hooded by Trustee Rev. Robert Kinnally during the special convocation.

Conor Gearty Awarded Honorary Degree

Noted author and scholar Conor Gearty received an honorary degree during a special academic convocation on April 22. The ceremony preceded the University's twice-yearly Faculty Institute. Gearty is a professor of human rights law at the London School of Economics (LSE), director of the LSE's Institute of Public Affairs and a founding member of Matrix Chambers, where he continues to practice at the English Bar. He presented the keynote address at the Faculty Institute on the topic of "Global Awareness and Terrorism," where he questioned whether our reactions to the threat of terrorism impinge upon our freedoms. ☺

IN MEMORIAM



Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz, 1926–2014

Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz passed away peacefully in February. Rabbi Joe, as he was affectionately known in the SHU community, was a co-founder in 1992 of Sacred Heart's Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding (CCJU) and served as executive director of the Center until his retirement in July 2007.

Rabbi Joe, who was 87, served as Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford, where he was spiritual leader from 1948 to 1992. At the time of his death, he was living in Tel Aviv and serving as the Synagogue Council of America's representative to the United Nations.

His other accomplishments included meeting eight times with Pope John Paul II in his ongoing efforts to bring Catholics and Jews closer together, initiating a peace pilgrimage to Cairo and Jerusalem at the invitation of Egypt's

President Anwar Sadat in 1978, and serving as a representative to the United Nations' non-governmental organization representing the Synagogue Council of America in 1985.

Born in Newark, N.J., in 1926, Ehrenkranz was ordained from Yeshiva University in 1949 and began working at Agudath Sholom in 1948. Under his leadership, the congregation flourished to become the largest Orthodox congregation in New England. He spent a sabbatical year in Israel during the Six-Day War in 1967, earning the Mayor Teddy Kollek Award for service, and spent Passover of 1976 in Russia, where he conducted a large Seder for the Jewish refuseniks in Moscow.

Rabbi Ehrenkranz received honorary doctorates from Yeshiva University as well as from Sacred Heart and earned the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding's prestigious Nostra Aetate Award for his "outstanding contributions to a world at peace" in 2010. ☞



s.w.e.e.t. Peer Educators Receive Award

The s.w.e.e.t. peer educators program recently won the Outstanding Peer Education Group Award at the NASPA/BACCHUS Network Area 10 spring conference. BACCHUS is a network of more than 8,000 student leaders and advisers who work with over four million peers on more than 330 campuses nationwide. They develop cutting-edge tools for campuses consisting of student-friendly training programs, resource manuals and health topic message promotions that address high-risk behaviors. SHU's s.w.e.e.t. peer educators program promotes a fun, healthy, balanced and safe college lifestyle by providing information and programs on a variety of wellness issues and connecting students with helpful campus and community resources. ☞

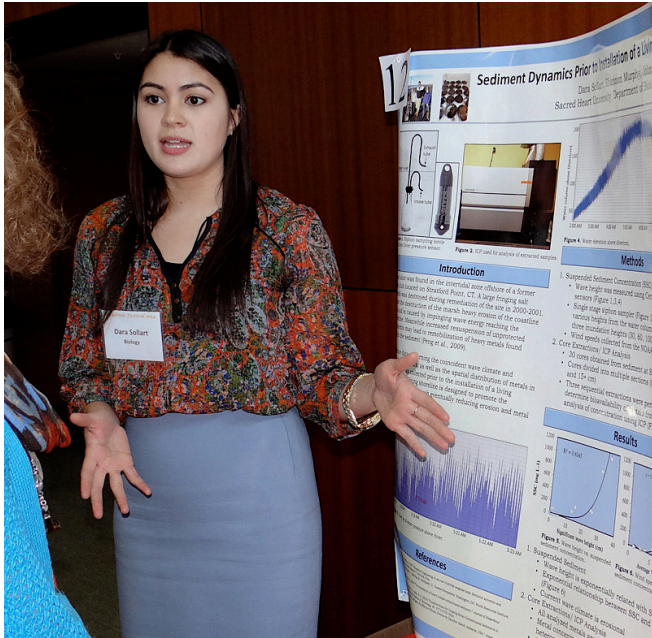


The Study Abroad Re-Entry Conference in University Commons

SHU Hosts Area's First Study Abroad Re-Entry Conference

On February 8, the Office of Global Affairs hosted the first annual Connecticut Area Study Abroad Re-Entry Conference on SHU's Fairfield campus. The event attracted several dozen Sacred Heart University students, as well as students from the University of Bridgeport, Quinnipiac University, Fairfield University and the University of New Haven.

"Many areas around the country do things like this—there's one for the Boston area, D.C., New Jersey—but there is nothing like this in Connecticut," said Francesca Schenker, coordinator of Global Affairs at SHU, who created the program. The point of the conference is to give students who have been studying abroad a chance to process their experiences by meeting others who have just returned home as well. ☞

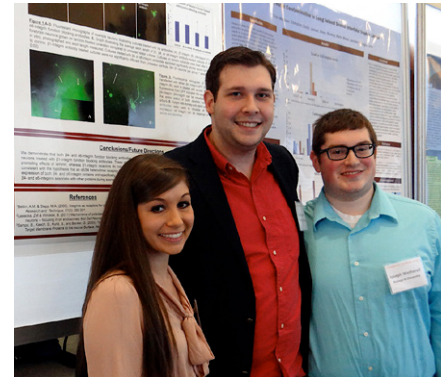


ABOVE Dara Sollart talks about her biology research during the annual Academic Festival. AT RIGHT Chemistry and biology majors Amy Buonaccorsi, Neil Doppler and Joseph Wetherell present an overview of their neurons-focused research project.

> [Check out the official Academic Festival website.](#)

Academic Festival Highlights Student Research

A total of 140 juniors, seniors and graduate students showed off their research talents at the Second Annual Academic Festival on April 25. The event presented research projects conducted by students across 13 disciplines from four of the University's Colleges, including Arts & Sciences, Health Professions, the John F. Welch College of Business and University College.



One highlight was the 67 posters on display, which effectively top-lined the various research projects. There were also 29 talks, divided across four time blocks, some of which were given by honors students spanning 10 disciplines. These were presented in classroom settings and included projected visuals.

All of the projects were outside of scheduled classwork and guided by SHU faculty, according to the Festival's chair, Professor Marlina Slamet. Explaining the benefit of the Festival, Slamet said, "Many of the participating students are headed to graduate school. This serves as training for them to prepare them for the demands of higher education. It also enhances their resumes going forward." ☞

Exercise Science Students Get First-Hand Experience



Exercise science students participated in various service-learning initiatives and clinics this past semester. Specifically, Professor Valerie Wherley's pediatrics exercise science students partnered with local schools in the Bridgeport area as part of their coursework. Madison Elementary School in Bridgeport serves as one of the host sites for this component of the program. During the semester, students were asked to complete 20 hours of service learning work to get first-hand experience working with children and adolescents, engaging them in physical activity and sports and seeing classroom and textbook concepts come to life.

"When I started teaching the pediatrics course, I knew it needed to be more of a hands-on experience," Wherley said. "I thought working with schools in Bridgeport could be a win-win collaboration."

Along with the Madison Elementary School partnership, Wherley also organized clinics with SHU's volleyball and track and field teams. At these clinics, children from the Bridgeport area participated in various athletic events with SHU's athletes and exercise science students, during which the exercise science students offered the children helpful tips and instructional points for various activities. ☞

Students, Faculty and Staff Honored with End-of-Year Awards

The 23rd Annual Campus Life Leadership Awards were presented to students, faculty and staff in May. Congratulations to the following deserving winners:



Pioneer Awards

FIRST YEAR: Theresa Fletcher

SOPHOMORE: Corey Rivera

JUNIOR: Jillian Newell

SENIOR: Conor Cassidy

DOUG BOHN UNSUNG HERO AWARD:
Megan Atkinson

JOHN CROFFY OUTSTANDING LEADER AWARD:
Erin McGunnigle

Final Four Awards

MARIAN CALABRESE OUTSTANDING
FACULTY AWARD: Andrew Lazowski, professor
of mathematics

OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR AWARD:
Andy Kolar, assistant director of Pioneer Bands

OUTSTANDING STAFF MEMBER AWARD:
Christine Burrows, Chartwells—Library Café

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARD:
Emily Cordero, Student Union



Greek Life

Awards were also presented to students involved in Greek Life. Congratulations to these winners:

FRATERNITY OF THE YEAR:
Delta Tau Delta

SORORITY OF THE YEAR:
Phi Sigma Sigma

FRATERNITY MAN OF THE YEAR:
Christopher Lizio

SORORITY WOMAN OF THE YEAR:
Arianna Narayan



TOP LEFT Abigail O'Keefe receives the Ralph Corrigan Volunteer Service Award from Associate Director of Volunteer Programs & Service Learning Megan Houlihan-Aceto during the Campus Life Leadership Awards. TOP RIGHT Arianna Narayan accepts the Outstanding Sisterhood Award on behalf of Zeta Tau Alpha from Emily Cordero during the Greek Life Awards. MIDDLE The Pioneer Pride Award went to Pi Kappa Phi during the 2014 Greek Life Awards. BOTTOM Father Jerry Ryle received a standing ovation after it was announced that the yearbook would be dedicated to him.

To meet the criteria for the top fraternity and sorority, a chapter must exhibit excellence throughout the year in chapter management, brotherhood/sisterhood, academic programming, new-member programming, exemplifying values, risk management, campus involvement and Greek Life community involvement.

To meet the criteria for the Fraternity Man and Sorority Woman of the Year, an individual must have made significant contributions to his or her chapter and the Greek Life community, demonstrated the values of his or her organization and the Greek Life community and exemplified the four pillars of the Greek Life community—leadership, scholarship, sisterhood/brotherhood and philanthropy/service.

- > [View additional photos from the Greek Life Awards.](#)
- > [View photos for the Campus Life Leadership Awards ceremony.](#)



2014

50TH ANNIVERSARY GRADUATES

Celebrate the Past

When this year's crop of 2014 graduates first arrived at Sacred Heart University, construction had not yet begun on the largest new academic building in the school's 50-year history, designed to house the John F. Welch College of Business and the Department of Communication & Media Studies. There was no Linda E. McMahon Student Commons, and the Wellness Center on Park Avenue was just an idea on paper.



Kimberly Woodruff

"I still remember freshman year and the sounds of construction waking me early in the morning," says Kimberly Woodruff, who will pursue a master's degree in elementary education at SHU's Isabelle Farrington College of Education after earning her degree in English. "Graduating during the 50th anniversary celebration is such an honorable way of remembering my past four years and how far this school has come."

Sacred Heart's 2014 graduates have experienced firsthand the University's growth and commitment to providing students with state-of-the-art facilities, top academic programs and relevant engaged learning experiences outside the classroom. Now, just like their alma mater, they're melding their past experiences with bright futures.

Some members of the Class of 2014 arrived at Sacred Heart knowing exactly what they wanted to accomplish. For instance, Taylor Lane applied because of SHU's "great education program and Division I softball." She was also well schooled in the five-year master's program for elementary education, since SHU has a satellite campus at her own Griswold High School.

This year, Taylor graduated magna cum laude in English after presenting a senior capstone paper at the Academic Festival. She also played softball all four years and earned a number of scholar-athlete awards along the way to enjoying her team's NEC championship. "Going to Regionals in the NCAA Tournament was incredible," she says. Meanwhile, Taylor enriched her studies by working as a writer and editor for SHU's newspaper, *The Spectrum*.

Now Taylor is pursuing a master's degree and certification in elementary education at Sacred Heart. Best of all, she'll be returning to Griswold High School for a student teaching stint in the special education department. "Looking back on my freshman year, I realize now that my head was filled with crazy dreams and unlimited positivity," she marvels. "From where I stand today, I can see that I have fulfilled many of those dreams."



Taylor Lane

st . . .

and Look Forward to the Future

By Holly Robinson



Megan Pathoomvanh

Megan Pathoomvanh, too, had clear goals as a freshman. She chose Sacred Heart because of the physical therapy program. "I applied before even having a tour," she admits. "Once I saw the campus, I enjoyed its small, tight-knit community and all it had to offer."

Megan decided to major in athletic training because she felt it would best prepare her for the physical therapy program, and she "found a passion in it that I didn't know I had." She especially enjoyed her therapeutic modalities course, despite having to be in class by 8 a.m. She enhanced her people skills by serving as an RSA with Residential Life. "I've made lifelong connections, and I will never forget the impact some people have left on me," she says. "It's even more touching that residents of mine have told me they'll never forget the impact I had on them." Megan will continue her education this fall at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., where she'll be working toward her master's degree in athletic training with a focus on education.

Of course, many students arrive at Sacred Heart without their career goals set in stone. They discover their career paths—and more about themselves—during their undergraduate studies. Brendan Stokes knew SHU "had a good reputation academically," for example, but "I had no clue what I wanted to do." He chose Sacred Heart "for the athletics," specifically for the fencing team.

Freshman year, Brendan participated in the Major in Success program through the Career Development office. "As I went through their tests and saw the answers, it was clear that my interests and personal characteristics were pointing toward a major in the Welch College of Business," he says. Armed with this knowledge, he started taking entry-level business classes and found he has a talent for accounting. "I liked how the numbers fell into place and how I could follow a format for financial documents."

Brendan was a member of SHU's Division I men's fencing team all four years. During that time, the team won four NEC fencing

titles. "Being on the fencing team made the transition to college very easy," he notes. "It gave me a routine to follow, and my teammates were instantly my friends."

When he wasn't fencing or studying, Brendan enriched his time at Sacred Heart by doing everything from tutoring young children at Bridgeport's Dunbar School to serving as president of the Accounting Club. His two internships at BlumShapiro, a regional accounting firm, led to an offer of an auditing position with that company. Brendan will start working at the firm after he takes a trip to China, finishes his MBA in finance at Sacred Heart and earns his CPA license.

"Sacred Heart helped me discover what my goals are and the paths I can take with my degree," he says, adding that many of the changes he has seen during four years here are good for the University's development. "It's very inspiring to be part of the 50th anniversary celebrations, and I'm excited and happy to tell others that I am an alumnus of Sacred Heart."

Like Brendan, Anthony Brunetto ended up in the WCOB, but for a very different reason: "My father has been a well-respected businessman for over 25 years," Anthony says. "He is not just my father, but also my role model. The education I have received has prepared me to mirror my father's success."

Anthony says that earning a business administration degree from Sacred Heart has taught him "the proper work ethic of becoming a successful human being." In addition to his studies, Anthony served as a research assistant on a project for Professor Grace Guo, which "showed me the importance of time management and problem-solving skills."

After graduation, he'll take his newly minted degree to a job with M&T Bank in New York. "Since I have arrived at Sacred Heart, I have experienced a culture that is always looking to provide its

"Once I saw the campus, I enjoyed its small, tight-knit community and all it had to offer."



Brendan Stokes





Anthony Brunetto

"Sacred Heart not only prepared me for my career, but has also taught me how to continue my education on a daily basis."

students with the best education possible," he says. "Sacred Heart not only prepared me for my career, but has also taught me how to continue my education on a daily basis."

With the addition of new buildings and ongoing improvements to the curriculum, Anthony believes Sacred Heart honors its commitment to support the students. "It is with this attitude that Sacred Heart

has kept thriving for 50 years and will continue to thrive for years to come," he says.

Kimberly Woodruff

agrees. She viewed the University's five-year program for elementary education as "icing on the top of the cake" after first touring the campus and seeing "how beautiful the grounds were.

"Honestly, I treasure every moment and experience I've had during my time at Sacred Heart," she says. "It's amazing how much one person and one community can accomplish in a short period of time." She then rattles off a breathtaking list of accomplishments that includes winning Club President of the Year in spring 2013 after founding the Education Club in 2012, being a member of two honor societies and Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, serving as an orientation leader and participating in the 2013 winter trip to Ireland.

"Every year, I challenged myself to try something new," she explains. "I've gained confidence in myself and truly learned the importance of communicating and interacting with others."

More importantly, Kim is content. "I'm happy because of the life I got to take part in at Sacred Heart," she says. "I know it's

something that I can never have back once I walk down the aisle to receive my diploma. This place has been my home for four years, with new friends, places and experiences."

Luckily, Kim won't be leaving entirely—on June 2, she started her master's in elementary education at SHU, juggling that with her job as art director at the Easton Community Center.

Franly Rosario was drawn to Sacred Heart's unique entry-level master's in occupational

therapy program. After earning his degree in psychology, "I wanted to choose a graduate program that allowed me to help a wide variety of populations," he says. "Occupational therapy is a broad field with endless opportunities." He especially appreciated Sacred Heart's focus on problem-based learning, which allows students to engage in research and hone skills through hands-on practice.

The OT program is an intensive two-year program, "so most of your time outside of the classroom is spent studying," Franly says. "Even so, in that short time period I definitely saw so much growth within the whole University."

Because the OT graduate program is run as a cohort, Franly started and finished with the same group of classmates. "This allowed us to develop a unique bond with each other," he says. "The program is rigorous, so having classmates take the exact classes as you really pays off, as you can all support and encourage each other along the way." Following graduation, he plans to study for his national board examination, then practice in New York City.

Like Franly, new graduate Karen Decker didn't come to Sacred Heart as a traditional freshman. She first attended SHU after high school and earned her associate's degree in psychology in 1989. That experience was so positive, "it only seemed appropriate that, after raising my two daughters, I returned to pursue my bachelor's degree." She's proud to serve as a role model for her teenage daughters—especially by making the dean's list.

With her general studies degree, Karen now plans to enter the field of human services. "Sacred Heart has provided the foundation that is instrumental in my understanding of human systems and the importance of those systems in society," she explains. "Most of all, Sacred Heart has instilled in me the desire to live a life that has meaning and purpose."

Along this exciting educational journey, Karen has witnessed not only the construction of the newest buildings on campus, but also the rise of campus housing, the Pitt Center and the Chapel. "I am proud to be part of a University that has evolved and grown and continues to flourish in many different ways, while maintaining its original integrity," she says. "I will continue to experience the growth through the next family generation, as my daughter begins Sacred Heart's nursing program in the fall."



Karen Decker



Franly Rosario

COMMENCEMENT 2014 IS A Family Affair

FOR MOM AND TWIN SONS



By Tim Deenihan

The joke among parents of twins is that both kids will graduate college not only on the same day, but on different coasts. "We don't have that problem," says Ellen Brassil.

Quite the opposite, in fact. Not only did her twin sons, Sacred Heart University seniors Tom and Martin Horak, both receive their undergraduate degrees on the same coast—at the same school, even—but she herself donned cap and gown as part of the 2014 SHU Commencement exercises in May to receive her master's degree in teaching from the University.

"My father was a big advocate of learning for its own sake," explains Brassil. "I think that's what I love about the graduate programs. They don't have to be about a particular job. A lot of MATs [those earning a master's in teaching] plan to go into the public schools as teachers, but the concepts are applicable to a wide range of educational situations."

Situations such as her own. Brassil is currently library director for Baystate Health, a premier health care institution in Massachusetts serving as the western campus for Tufts Medical School. "Being a librarian has changed so much over the years," she says. "We're no longer the 'guardians of the stacks.' Information is omnipresent now, and any institution of higher learning has to help students learn not just how to access that information, but also to navigate and manage it."

She credits her understanding of the role to her time as a librarian at Sacred Heart, serving under Gavin Ferriby. ("I just can't say enough good things about him," she raves. "He is such a terrific leader in that library. Visionary, really.") Brassil has also been a middle school media specialist and even served on the West Hartford Board of Education, so it's hardly surprising to hear that she always found the quest for knowledge edifying in its own right.

"I'm very proud of her," says Tom, a marketing major as well as varsity lacrosse player. "Working full time in Massachusetts and getting a degree from SHU was not easy. But she's smart. She's persevered. She's always excelled in her work."

"I'm glad to see her continuing her education," Martin chimes in, himself a sport management and marketing major who was actively involved with the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity. "And," he adds, "it was good to see her around on occasion."

As a Third Order Carmelite (lay member), Sacred Heart's Catholic identity is enormously important to Brassil, and few have had the opportunity to witness that identity from as many angles as she. She is a past employee, as well as a current parent and a graduating student, so the University's commitment to balancing faith and reason through lifelong learning and service resonates



From left are Tom Horak, Ellen Brassil and Martin Horak.

with her to the very core.

"As a family, we have always been so inspired by the University's

message to give back," Brassil says. It was something that had impressed them from the beginning, but touched them very personally last year when Tom and Martin's oldest brother, Doug, passed away. The entire Sacred Heart lacrosse team traveled to West Hartford to show their support for their teammate and his family. "We will never forget such kindness and compassion, so typical of the culture at Sacred Heart," she says.

"There's just something very special about that school, and you feel it the moment you're on campus. The people are committed to their goals, but also something more. They're aware that they're part of something bigger," she adds.

Something that, perhaps, will take a lifetime of learning to try to understand. And for Ellen Brassil, that's absolutely fine.

"As a family, we have always been so inspired by the University's message to give back . . ."



Edward Garrity with his painting "Soo, I Was Thinkin'"

Two Students Accepted into New Haven Exhibition

Students Edward Garrity and Mike Abate were among the artists accepted into the New Haven Paint and Clay Club's 113th Annual Juried Art Exhibition held at the John Slade Ely House Center for Contemporary Art. The juror for the exhibit was Douglas Hyland, director of the New Britain Museum of American Art. Garrity's piece "Soo, I Was Thinking . . ." and Abate's "A Look Through My Eyes" were accepted from more than 400 entries throughout the Northeast. Abate also received an award for his self-portrait in watercolor. ☺

RIGHT Mike Abate with his painting "A Look Through My Eyes," which received the \$100 Carle Blenner Prize.



Winter Guard Wins Championship



The Winter Guard took home the championship prize during this year's Musical Arts Conference (MAC) championship.

The SHU Winter Guard



Pianist Magdalena Baczewska performs works of Chopin in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in April. This concert was sponsored by the Polish Studies Fund.

Pianist Performs Concert Highlighting Chopin

The Polish Studies Fund hosted a concert featuring the work of Frédéric Chopin on April 5 at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. Magdalena Baczewska, recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Polish Minister of Culture and laureate of the Award for Outstanding Polish Citizen Abroad, was the featured pianist in a program designed to bring Chopin's musical world to life and highlight the generations of musicians he inspired. ☺

Steve Aoki

American electro house musician Steve Aoki performed in the Pitt Center in April as part of the annual spring concert.



Students get "caked" by Steve Aoki—a signature part of his performance.

> Check out photos from the concert.





Lindsay McGrath and Sarah Cohen in *Chicago*.



Theatrefest

Theatre Arts Program students take a bow after performing *That Was Then* at Theatrefest.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

Concerts



TOP ROW 1. The SHU L.O.V.E. pops concert *Here Comes Trouble: Bad Never Sounded So Good*. 2. The SHUpermen at *Friends: A Concert in March*. MIDDLE ROW 3. Performing Beatles music at *A Really Big SHU* are, from left, Sarah Pfeffer, Bill Haug, Sid Gottlieb, Chris Mastrocola and Greg Golda. BOTTOM ROW 4. The Choir presents *Sing Out!: A Concert Against Bullying* in March. 5. Music Instructor Joe Carter, far right, and the Brazilian Jazz All Stars performed a tribute concert to celebrate the music of Antonio Carlos Jobim in March.



TOP ROW 6. Ballroom dancers Debele Duplan and Matthew Lewis at *Elements*. 7. The Percussion Ensemble performs with Assistant Director of Bands Andy Kolar at *Elements*. MIDDLE ROW 8. SHU's Brass Quintet, along with organist Galen Tate, performed in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on April 25. 9. Trumpet player Mike Nigro at the *Great American Band Concert* in March. BOTTOM ROW 10. Chris Hodges, left, and Addison Chau, perform during the pops concert, *Movies and More*, in May. 11. The choir performs during the annual spring pops concert.



The Band poses for a photo in front of St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

University Band Performs in Italy

The University Band's first trip to Italy was a resounding success, creating lasting memories for SHU's international superstars. The 52 band members, along with three professional staff members, performed back-to-back concerts during the trip in early January. Concerts took place in Alba Radians Theater in Albano Laziale in the Castelli Romani area and in the town of Faleria at St. Julian Church, built in 1258. The group also had a chance to explore on their own and tour the Vatican, Roman Forum, the Coliseum and Trevi Fountain.

Dance Company Event



The SHU Dance Company presented "Perceptions" on the Edgerton Stage in May.



Students look at the work of photojournalist Mariusz Smiejek.

An Uneasy Peace: Northern Ireland's Search for Resolution

An Uneasy Peace: Northern Ireland's Search for Resolution was the inaugural collaboration between the Department of Art & Design Gallery at the Edgerton and Vision Project. The exhibit, which explored the continuing struggle in Northern Ireland to find a peaceful solution for coexistence in a region with a very troubled history, featured the work of photographer Mariusz Smiejek and was curated by Richard Falco, president of Vision Project. Professor of Art & Design Jonathan Walker designed the visuals and the exhibition.

Choir Performs in Ireland

The SHU Choir was in Ireland in early March where they performed at Scoil Eoin—the only school visit on their itinerary. The 50 students entertained the schoolchildren for an hour with a variety of songs from secular to liturgical selections. The choir from Scoil Eoin returned the favor by performing for the SHU students.



Faculty Honored at Annual Reception

SACRED HEART'S FACULTY WAS CELEBRATED MAY 7 at the University's annual Faculty Reception. During the festivities, University Provost Laura Niesen de Abruna announced the winners of the University's prestigious Faculty Awards. This year, in addition to the Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Scholarship awards, two other awards were given—the Service Learning Award and the Global Awareness Award. These awards honor the professors who best reflect the high-impact practices the faculty has been focused on this year.

Sociology Professor Jerry Reid received the Service Learning Award for his early adoption of integration of service learning into a large number of his classes. "He has embodied the part of our mission that talks about service by asking his students to work on projects that benefit low-income residents of Bridgeport as part of their classwork," Niesen said.

Professor Robert McCloud, who teaches computer science and information technology, received the Global Awareness Award for his work on SHU's behalf for the American Council on Education (ACE) Internationalization Laboratory program, an invitational learning community that helps participating colleges and universities achieve comprehensive internationalization. McCloud has also been instrumental in developing SHU's relationship with the Fulbright Committee.

History Professor Gregory Viggiano won the Excellence in Scholarship Award, and Donna Bowers of the Physical Therapy Department took home the Excellence in Teaching Award.

"There were many outstanding nominations for all four awards. The committee had a tough time selecting the winners," Niesen noted.

Accounting Professor Alan DeFavero received the Faculty Excellence Award, which is given to a professor chosen by University College students.

In celebration of Sacred Heart's 50th anniversary, four retired faculty members were awarded the prestigious Bishop Walter W. Curtis 50th Anniversary Medal. The medal is given to those who embody the central elements of the University's core values in their lives. The winners were Ralph Corrigan, Rawlin A. "Pete" Fairbaugh, John Kikoski and Constance Young (see our story on 50th Anniversary Award winners, page 30).

Niesen also announced that six faculty members have been awarded tenure by the Board of Trustees. They are:

- SUSAN DENISCO, associate professor of nursing, who has been serving as interim director of the School

of Nursing. DeNisco's professional interests include primary care with a focus on internal medicine, health promotion and disease prevention, and medically underserved populations. DeNisco is on the Board of Directors for the Mercy Learning Center and was published in 2012 for her research on advanced practice nursing.

- MATTHEW MORAN, assistant professor of exercise science and director of the undergraduate exercise science program. His research interests include autistic movement patterns, running mechanics on performance and injury, and computational prediction of running performance through improved optimization algorithms. In 2013, he was published in *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience* multiple times for his various projects on autism spectrum disorders and trained distance running.
- RICHARD PATE, assistant professor of business law. His professional interest is human resource law. He is licensed to practice law in Connecticut, the United States District Court of Connecticut, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.
- JULIE STEWART, assistant professor of nursing. Her professional interests include nurse practitioners, HIV, hepatitis and sexual abuse/assault. Her research interests and grants range from interpersonal violence and sexual abuse to HIV and epidemiology.
- GEOFFREY STOPPER, assistant professor of biology. His professional interest is evolutionary biology.
- DEIRDRE YEATER, assistant professor of psychology. Her research interests and grants include marine mammal behavior and cognition, and the study of self-awareness and theory of mind in animals.

Moran, Pate, Stewart, Stopper and Yeater also received promotions from assistant professor to associate professor, while DeNisco was promoted from associate professor to full professor. Other promotions were given to Lenore Frost, professor of occupational therapy, from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor; Linda Strong, professor of nursing, from assistant professor to associate professor; and James Castonguay, director of the MACOMM program, from associate professor to full professor.

> [View additional photos from the Faculty Awards.](#)



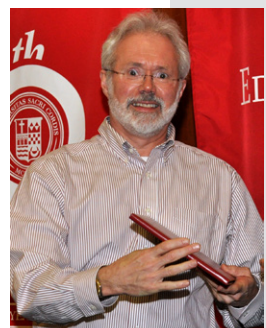
Donna Bowers



Alan DeFavero



Robert McCloud



Jerry Reid



Gregory Viggiano

Professor Orlowski Honored for Contributions to Economics with Honorary Doctorate

A special honor was bestowed upon Lucjan Orlowski, chair of the Department of Economics and Finance and DBA program director, on March 6, when he received the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa from the Wroclaw University of Economics, one of the top five best economics universities in Poland. Orlowski was recognized as an economist who has made a lasting contribution to the world in economics and finance, particularly with regard to the debate concerning the functioning of the contemporary financial markets and monetary policy.

Orlowski's academic career began at the University of Economics in Katowice, Poland, where he received a doctorate in international economics in 1979. Since coming to Sacred Heart University in 1983, he has held several administrative positions including chair of the Department of Financial Studies, acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs and director of Global Studies. In receiving the award, Orlowski expressed his appreciation to the University and his home country. "I am greatly honored by this recognition. I accept it with pride and satisfaction, as it is conferred on me by this renowned and dynamically growing University. I am also deeply touched to be honored by my countrymen in my native land of Poland," he said. ☺

AT RIGHT Andrzej Gospodarowicz presents the honorary doctorate to Lucjan Orlowski.



Professor Gary Rose Talks About His Book at League of Women Voters Event

Gary Rose, chairman of the Department of Government & Politics, discussed his most recent book, *No Holds Barred*, which details the 2012 Connecticut Senate race. The lecture and discussion were presented by the Fairfield League of Women Voters on April 2.



Michelle Loris teaches a class.



Loris Named Interim Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Associate Dean Michelle Loris has been named acting dean of the College of Arts & Sciences as a result of Dean Seamus Carey's decision to assume the role of president of Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky. Loris was named the 2013 Connecticut Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

President John J. Petillo has announced a nationwide search for a new dean. He has appointed a search committee to be chaired by James Castonguay, director of the master's in communication program. It is anticipated that the new dean will be in place for the beginning of the fall semester. ☞

Laura Niesen de Abruna



Provost Laura Niesen de Abruna Elected to Inaugural Board of Directors of the ACAO

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Laura Niesen de Abruna has been elected to the inaugural Board of Directors of the Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO). The ACAO is the first national organization representing chief academic officers, such as provosts and vice presidents for academic affairs, from all accredited higher education institutions. ☞



Nursing Professors Speak at Danbury Hospital

Three nursing professors spoke at Danbury Hospital on February 12 as part of the hospital's 2014 Global Health Series. Professors Michelle Cole, Shery Watson and Eileen Yost, all of whom are also mission coordinators, discussed the topic "Developing a Sustainable Global Health Program: Experiences from the School of Nursing at Sacred Heart University."

Nursing faculty Eileen Yost, Shery Watson and Michelle Cole



Kevin Chui

Kevin Chui Named Department Chair of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science

Kevin Chui has been named chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science. In this role, Chui will provide leadership for the athletic training and exercise science programs in addition to serving as the director of the physical therapy program and director of clinical practice for Sacred Heart University Physical Therapy Specialists. He will also be responsible for the strategic planning of the program, faculty mentorship, creating and implementing a budget, accreditation, admissions and more.

Chui has been with the University since 2005 and has extensive experience in the physical therapy field—focusing on geriatric and orthopedic physical therapy, research methods and statistics. His practice and research interests have been primarily in those areas, and his work has been published in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks. He has also presented at national physical therapy and gerontology conferences, and is associate editor for the *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy* and a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals.

He serves on the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties—Geriatric Specialty Council, on several national committees and task forces for the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, on the research and scholarship committees for the Connecticut Physical Therapy Association and as a consultant for local and national geriatric, orthopedic and occupational health companies. Chui holds a doctorate in physical therapy (DPT) from MGH Institute of Health Professions, a doctorate in pathokinesiology (Ph.D.) from New York University and a doctoral-level academic certificate in manual therapy from Regis University. He has also completed two fellowship programs credentialed by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education and is recognized as a fellow of the Education Leadership Institute and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists. ☺

Mike Emery Retires

Michael Emery, professor and chair of SHU's Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science, has retired. His responsibilities included providing leadership for new programs and curriculum development, program review, clinical practice activities, faculty scholarship development and student affairs.

Emery began his physical therapy career at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He moved to Burlington, Vt., in 1982 to be an advanced clinician at the Medical Center Hospital and joined the University of Vermont faculty in the physical therapy program in 1985, where he served as the program coordinator from 1992 to 1994. He was then named the founding director of SHU's graduate program in physical therapy.

At Sacred Heart, Emery initiated the faculty physical therapy practice and became the clinical director of the Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center. He was named chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science in 1999, and was also the director of practice and clinical research for the College of Health Professions.

Emery was active at the regional and national levels in areas of professional education planning and development, accreditation of physical therapy education and curriculum development. His awards include the 2003 Lucy Blair Service Award from the American Physical Therapy Association and, from Sacred Heart, the 2001 Pope John XXIII Award for Campus Leadership and this year's prestigious Bishop Walter W. Curtis 50th Anniversary Medal. ☺



Mike Emery, left, gets a standing ovation from his students at Graduate Commencement.



From left are the Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, then-archbishop of Hartford; Art Gerckens; St. Mary – St. Michael School Principal Linda Coppola and Hartford Archdiocese Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dale R. Hoyt.

Art Gerckens '98 Receives St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award

Arthur Gerckens, manager of Sacred Heart University's Mail and Duplicating Center, is the 2013 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton award recipient. The Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) of the Archdiocese of Hartford awarded Gerckens with this honor for his hard work and dedication in fighting to keep St. Mary – St. Michael School in Derby open when it was at risk of closing due to dwindling finances and enrollment rates.

Gerckens' twin daughters, Ashley and Brittany, were attending St. Mary – St. Michael back in 2010 when the school faced closure. Leading a group of parents, Gerckens created a strategic plan and implemented a number of fundraising initiatives to save the school.

"I received this award for demonstrating to others what can happen when people who believe in Catholic education volunteer their talents on behalf of their parish elementary schools," Gerckens said.

Developing a financial and strategic plan to save the school was no easy feat. Gerckens and the rest of his team were given two weeks to come up with a plan. Ultimately, Gerckens used Sacred Heart's financial and strategic plans as a guide for the team's design to save St. Mary – St. Michael School.

"The SHU plans enabled me to focus on what was important," explained Gerckens. "We made an enrollment section, a development section, a public relations section, a Catholic identity section and, finally, a financial section. I then created a professional presentation, shared it with the superintendent, and the archbishop approved it."

Once the plan was approved, Gerckens and his team sprang into action—tapping into the school's alumni base and hosting various fundraising events, such as a 5K road race and golf tournaments—many of which received media coverage. Three and a half years later, the school has gone from 65 to 144 students enrolled, and its facilities have been improved with iPads for student use, a new playground, white board technology and the introduction of pre-k classes. The school has received many grants.

"I am truly humbled and honored to have received this award," said Gerckens. "I had a great team of people supporting me and our mission of keeping the school open. It just goes to show that great things can be accomplished when you have a group of people working together toward a common goal."

Dale R. Hoyt, superintendent of Catholic schools, and the Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, then-archbishop of Hartford, presented the award.



William A. Reidy Named Vice President of Advancement

William A. Reidy has been named vice president for University Advancement. In this role, he will be responsible for planning, initiating, directing, reporting and evaluating all fundraising activities for Sacred Heart from private and public sources. He will also supervise the division of University Advancement, which includes the Development and Alumni Relations offices.



Platinum Award for Promoting a Healthy Workplace

Sacred Heart University is a platinum award winner in the Business Council of Fairfield County's annual Healthy Workplaces Best Practices competition. SHU was recognized on February 28 for its outstanding commitment to promoting a healthy work environment for employees during the Healthy Workplaces Best Practices Award Ceremony at the Sheraton Stamford Hotel. This was the fourth consecutive year that SHU was recognized by the council. The previous awards were in the Gold category.

The Human Resources Division launched its Wellness Program in 2007 with the goal of helping employees become more aware of their health and take action to lead healthier lifestyles. Program offerings include on-site fitness classes, discounts at local fitness centers, an annual University health fair and more.



Jaya Kannan Speaks at Columbia University

Director of Digital Learning Jaya Kannan was a presenter at the 34th Annual Applied Linguistics Winter Conference at the Teachers College at Columbia University. The topic of the conference was "Guiding the Autonomous Mind: Perspectives in TESOL and Applied Linguistics," and Kannan gave the 2014 plenary talk.



Jeff Barrett Wins Conference Scholarship

Risk Manager Jeff Barrett earned a regional conference scholarship from the University Risk Management and Insurance Association, which promotes effective risk management principles and practices in institutions of higher education. Barrett was one of only five people selected in the U.S. to receive a scholarship for the organization's 2014 regional conferences. He represented Sacred Heart at the Northeastern Regional Conference on April 22.

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2014

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Comes to a Close

More than 1,600 Sacred Heart University students set off into the world Commencement weekend after receiving diplomas and words of advice from business, religious and political leaders, scholars and classmates.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN SHU'S 50-YEAR HISTORY that the Board of Trustees voted to award more diplomas to graduate students than to undergrads. The 48th Commencement exercises concluded a year-long celebration of SHU's 50th anniversary.

"It is exciting to reach this landmark in this anniversary year," said Provost Laura Niesen de Abruna. "In 50 years, we have gone from a small, local liberal arts college with fewer than 200 undergraduates to an internationally recognized University with more than 50 strong program offerings for both graduate and undergraduate students."

University President John J. Petillo advised the graduates to keep in mind the three words on the second bell in the Chapel bell tower—"remember your dignity." "At times in your professional and personal life, you will inevitably be challenged to cross the line. Remember these years here where values, judgment and history offered

you a context," he said. "Never compromise your integrity, your name. . . . Remember your dignity."

In his address to the graduates, Ernie Anastos, news anchor for Fox's flagship station WNYW-TV in New York and creator and host of *Positively Ernie*, encouraged the graduates to choose happiness. "As we become happier, we become better people—more compassionate, creative and energetic. We also become financially successful, more emotionally and physically healthy, and we live longer," he said.

He offered some recommendations for happiness:

- Make happiness your personal success story. It's an important goal that will set the tone for your life.
- Stay connected to your family, loved ones and friends. Share your lifetime dreams with these special people.
- Make service to others a part of your life; the reward is immeasurable.
- Believe in yourself; become all you can be, without sacrificing your core values.

Anastos received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. James Costello, retired comptroller for General Electric and former member of the SHU Board of Trustees, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, although he was unable to attend the ceremony.

Steve Dzik '96, vice president of the Sacred Heart University Alumni Association, painted a very different picture of the campus he arrived on in 1992. As he welcomed the graduates to the club of more than 35,000 alumni, he said, "You've witnessed firsthand some very exciting changes to campus: the Linda McMahon Commons was built, ground has been broken and construction started on the new College of Business and Communication & Media Studies Building and, most recently, the University announced that in 2016 it will be purchasing the land now occupied by the Jewish Home. It's a pretty safe bet that when you return to campus in 10 years, five years or even a year from now, it will look just a little bit different from the way it does today."



College of Arts & Sciences Interim Dean Michelle Loris and President Petillo congratulate students as they walk across the stage at Webster Bank Arena to receive their diplomas.



Undergraduate honorary degree recipient Ernie Anastos kicked off his speech with a selfie with the crowd.

with 48th Commencement

"We have a lot to be grateful for. Not only did Sacred Heart provide [Alison] with a wonderful education, but coming here saved her life."

—ALISON CUBBELLOTTI'S MOTHER KAREN



As part of SHU's 50th anniversary celebration, alumni representing each of the past five decades participated in the procession.

Alison Cubbellotti of Trumbull received her bachelor's degree in nursing after taking two years off during her college years for a liver transplant. Her donor, John Vales '10, assisted in the presentation of her degree. "After everything I have been through, it is wonderful that this day has finally come," she said.

"We have a lot to be grateful for," added her mother Karen. "Not only did Sacred Heart provide her with a wonderful education, but coming here saved her life."

During Saturday's Graduate Commencement, the keynote speaker was Sr. Kathleen Deignan '71, a professor of religious studies, director of the Iona Spirituality Institute and a member of the Congregation of Notre Dame, founded by Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys. Her remarks were perfectly attuned to the conclusion of Sacred Heart's 50th anniversary celebration.

"I have had the gift of nearly a half century to realize the powerful legacy bestowed on me in 1971, when my first Commencement ceremony sent me forth laden with the spiritual and intellectual richness of our University's youthful, daring, visionary energy, the wisdom gifts of its exceptional faculty, the challenge of its world-embracing mission," she said. "With sincerity, I profess in your presence that it was during my undergraduate education at the nascent Sacred Heart University that I was freed and formed in its pioneering spirit, which still pervades this educational enterprise and continues to mark my own life going forward."

She encouraged graduates to be similarly inspired. "In each other's hearing, let us thank this Alma Mater, this good Mother Sacred

Heart, for all the seasons spent in her instruction and inspiration, in her myriad libraries of wisdom and with her remarkable faculties. Let us stay indebted for the friends she gave us, the sweet taste of knowledge and the worlds it opened to us, as she prepared us to be pioneers of new frontiers of creativity and hope, to be sent in mission to the world on her *via cordis*," Deignan said.

Deignan was presented with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

The students also heard from Senator Richard Blumenthal, who encouraged them to be champions of human rights as well as pioneers.

Quaker Hill resident Heather Farnell, who received both a master's degree in applied psychology and a bachelor's degree in psychology from SHU, had nothing but praise for the University. "I love the campus and the small classes. After getting both degrees at SHU, I have come to know and respect the faculty in the Psychology Department," she said.

Farnell will be working at an assisted living facility after graduation, where she will help residents with computer activities and work in the dementia unit.

Her grandfather, Don Lusk, said he couldn't put into words how proud he was of Heather. "She is everything I ever wanted in a granddaughter," he said.

"Sacred Heart was a wonderful experience for Heather," said Farnell's mother, Patty Strickland. "It's been a great experience for the entire family. I never worried about Heather when she was there. I knew it was a school that was focused on education."

ABOVE Student Alison Cubbellotti of Trumbull, center, received her bachelor's degree in nursing after taking two years off during her college years for a liver transplant. Her donor, John Vales '10, left, assisted in the presentation of her degree, as well as her godfather, Jorge Rivera. Cubbellotti received a standing ovation from the crowd.



Recipient
by taking



Honorary Degree Recipient
Sr. Kathleen Deignan '71

2014 Speakers

5 JANUARY 2014



Best-selling author **Anna Quindlen** shared insights into her new novel, *Still Life with Bread*

Crumbs, on January 29 with Ann Leary, co-host of the NPR weekly radio show *Hash Hags*. Part of WSHU's Join the Conversation series.



Peter Kavanagh, retired senior producer from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and

regular writer for *The Tablet* and *The Catholic Register*, offered a talk entitled "Reflections on the Dichotomy Between Secular and Religious Media: Pope Francis—A Case Study in Progress" on January 29.

8 FEBRUARY 2014



John Sullivan, executive director of the Free Software Foundation in Boston, spoke

on the topic "The Future Is Open—or Is It?" and about free software on February 10. Sponsored by the Ryan Matura Library and part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series. ☞



Frank Warren talked about Post Secret, his online community mail art project where

people send him a secret on a homemade postcard, on February 10. Since its inception in 2005, thousands of original pieces of art have been displayed on the Post Secret website. ☞



Freeman Hrabowski, III, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore

County, gave an inspiring lecture on preparing minority students in science and technology on February 12 entitled "The Power to Change: Encouraging Minority Achievement in Education." Sponsored by the Isabelle Farrington College of Education. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series. ☞



Jeffrey Ogbar, vice provost for Diversity at the University of Connecticut and author of *The*

Hip Hop Revolution, *The Culture and Politics of Rap* and several other books, discussed "Pop Music and Activism: Jazz to Hip Hop" on February 12. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.



Northern Kentucky University Associate Professor and Author **Catherine**

Neal discussed her book, *Taking Down the Lion*, on February 18. Neal sheds a positive light on Tyco's former CEO, Dennis Kozlowski, in her book, released just days before Kozlowski was granted parole from an eight-year prison sentence for grand larceny. Sponsored by Sacred Heart's John F. Welch College of Business, the Department of Communication & Media Studies and the Department of Criminal Justice. ☞



Author **John R. Hale**, director of Liberal Studies at the University of Louisville, was the guest

speaker for SHU's Annual History Lecture on February 20. His topic was "Dragons of the North: The Saga of Viking Warships." Sponsored by the History Department.



Father Anthony Ciorra, assistant vice president for Mission and Catholic Identity, was the speaker

for the Fourth Annual Henri Nouwen Lecture on Contemporary Spirituality on February 26. His topic was "Beauty: A Path to God," which is also the title of his most recent book. Sponsored by the Division of Mission and Catholic Identity.

8 MARCH 2014



Author **Tim Zimmerman**, award-winning correspondent with *Outside* magazine, talked

about producing and writing his documentary, *Blackfish*, on March 11. Part of the Student Affairs Lecture Series.



Yi-Chun Tricia Lin, president of the National Women's Studies Association and chair of the

Women's Studies Department at Southern Connecticut State University, was the speaker for a Women's History Month lecture on March 11. Her topic was "From Another Native Daughter: A Local Journey, A Global Vision." Sponsored by the Women's Studies Department and part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.



Bob Trefrey, former president and CEO of Bridgeport Hospital and former executive

vice president of Yale New Haven Health System; **Jack Lett**, former executive vice president of Millward Brown, Inc.; and **Suzanne Peters**, vice president of The Fund for Women and Girls, were on hand March 25 to discuss why businesses need to consider society's response to issues of global and local poverty, health and education. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.

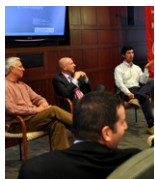


Meghan Vesel, deputy director of the Brazilian Immigrant Center, was on campus to discuss the

theory of domestic workers' rights on March 26. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.



Chairman and CEO of Fidelity National Information Systems (FIS) **Frank Martire '69** was the latest distinguished guest in the Conversations series of programs presented by The John F. Welch College of Business on March 27. The conversation was titled "Leadership, Ethics/Morals and the Importance of Cyber Security in Today's World" and was moderated by Linda McMahon, co-founder and former CEO of WWE. The two are also members of the SHU Board of Trustees, where Martire serves as vice chairman. ☞



Schooled: The Price of College Sports, a film produced by **Bobby Valentine**,

SHU's executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics, and **Andrew Muscato**, was shown on April 2. Based on the book *The Cartel* by Taylor Branch, it explores such issues as the large sums of money brought in by college sports, whether student-athletes should be paid beyond their athletic scholarships, the massive NCAA rulebook and the way it is applied, and much more. The screening was followed by a panel discussion/Q&A session with Valentine, Muscato and Brad Hurlbut, SHU's deputy director of Intercollegiate Athletics.



Jennifer Unger, assistant professor and clinical instructor at the University of Washington

(Seattle), was on campus to discuss "Women and HIV-AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa: Progress Toward Preventive Measures" on April 8. Unger is the recipient of the UW/FHCRC Center for AIDS Research Award and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Award. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.



Author **Glenn Patterson** was on campus to discuss his latest novel, *The Rest Just Follows*, on

April 9. He is the author of eight previous novels and co-writer of

Good Vibrations, an award-winning film based on the life of punk impresario Terri Hooley.



Kelly M. McFarland, Arabian Peninsula analyst for the U.S. Department of

State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, discussed "The Persian Gulf and the Arab Spring: Reactions and Future Outlooks" on April 10. Sponsored by the Department of History and the Department of Government & Politics.



On April 15, international special agent and SHU alumnus **Bruce Tully** shared the

highlights of a 30-year career spent working in the U.S. Secret Service, White House, Foreign Missions Division and the U.S. State Department.



Kathleen Fitzpatrick, director of Scholarly Communication of the Modern

Language Association, visiting research professor of English at NYU and author of *Planned Obsolescence: Publishing, Technology, and the Future of the Academy* and other books, shared her insights on technology on April 23. Sponsored by the Ryan Matura Library. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.



Professor of History **Jenniffer McLaughlin** delivered a talk entitled "A Call to Arms: War

and Commemoration in Fairfield from the Pequot War to the Memorial Day Parade" on April 28 to celebrate Fairfield's rich history on the occasion of its 375th anniversary this year, as well as SHU's 50th anniversary. She was introduced by Michael Iannazzi, vice chairman for SHU's 50th anniversary celebration. Part of the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series. ☞



Women Can Have It All series

Stephanie McMahon, World Wrestling Entertainment executive and television personality, had some words of wisdom for young women starting out in their careers on April 23 during the first session of a series titled *Women Can Have It All* at Sacred Heart University. One piece of advice: Watch what you tweet because it could haunt you throughout your career. The series is being hosted by University trustee **Linda McMahon**, WWE

co-founder and former CEO and mother of Stephanie. Before a capacity crowd of students from the John F. Welch College of Business, Linda McMahon questioned her daughter about the rewards and challenges of balancing family, work, friendships and personal time. Stephanie McMahon is currently chief brand officer of World Wrestling Entertainment—a company founded by her parents. ☞



On May 4, ABC's *Good Morning America* co-host **Robin Roberts** shared a conversation on

the Edgerton stage with WTNH Anchor Ann Nyberg, discussing her inspirational new memoir *Everybody's Got Something*. Part of WSHU's Join the Conversation series.

Professor Conducts Concussion Research with the Men's Lacrosse Team



"We are one of the first in the country to embark on an accelerometer concussion study of this size in men's lacrosse . . . Concussion research and the topic of concussions are very 'hot' right now, and this research targets the fastest-growing team sport in America."

— THERESA MIYASHITA, DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
FOR THE ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM



THERESA MIYASHITA, DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR FOR the athletic training program, has begun an accelerometer concussion study. She is using the men's lacrosse team to help her with this research, which involves the use of accelerometers in the team's helmets. These sensors detect the amount of impact (in Gs or standard gravity acceleration) a player receives when he gets hit by a ball, a stick or another player. The sensors can also measure the impact of hitting the ground.

The players will be wearing these sensors in their helmets for the entire season—both in practices and games. The information received from the sensors is then uploaded to see the number of impacts sustained, where the impacts were sustained and the amount of Gs each impact had. This data is compared to a number of different variables such as neurocognitive function, modified IQ scores, depression/anxiety, alcohol/drug dependency screens and concussion injuries. The players were baseline tested and will be given a post-test when the season is complete.

"We are one of the first in the country to embark on an accelerometer concussion study of this size in men's lacrosse," said Miyashita. "We are collaborating with Professor Michael Higgins at Towson University, who is conducting a similar study to compare impacts on different helmets (Cascade vs. Warrior). Concussion research and the topic of concussions are very 'hot' right now, and this research targets the fastest-growing team sport in America."

Miyashita and her team began their research in January of this year and are hoping to continue over the next four years to ensure a longitudinal study. They are currently monitoring a group of freshmen and will follow them through their four years of lacrosse playing. They will be looking at the players for other variables as well.

"The men's lacrosse team and their coach, John Basti, have been huge supporters and have been instrumental in getting this project running," Miyashita said. "This project would not be possible without them and the rest of my research team."

Miyashita's team consists of Professor Eleni Diakogeorgiou; Kaitlyn Marrie, head athletic trainer for the men's lacrosse team; Mary Jo Mason from the Health and Wellness Center; Professor Kelly Copperthite and a number of her athletic training students. ☺



Uploading data from helmet sensors are, from left, athletic training student Sydney Judkins; Professor Theresa Miyashita, director of the athletic training program; and Kaitlyn Marrie, head athletic trainer for the men's lacrosse team.



2014

FACULTY AND STAFF HONORED AS

Part of 50th

As part of Sacred Heart's 50th anniversary celebration, 13 faculty and staff members—both past and present—were presented with the University's prestigious Bishop Walter W. Curtis 50th Anniversary Medal.



FOLLOWING A NOMINATION PROCESS, THE MEDALS WERE AWARDED TO GIFTED AND ACCOMPLISHED INDIVIDUALS WHO EMBODY THE CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S CORE VALUES IN THEIR LIVES. THOSE CORE VALUES ARE:

- Preservation, transmission and development of the Catholic intellectual and liberal arts traditions
- Commitment to excellence in all that we do
- Pursuit of truth and knowledge as intrinsically valuable
- Promotion of the common good of society
- Recognition of the dignity and worth of every human being

Faculty

During the annual Freshman Convocation in fall 2013, four faculty members were awarded the medal by Provost Laura Niesen de Abruna. They are:



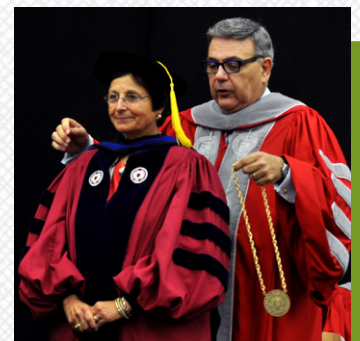
Mike Emery

- **MICHAEL EMERY, ASSOCIATE DEAN, PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM**, who received the award for his leadership vision in ensuring that the master's in physical therapy evolved into the first doctoral program at the University and gained national recognition. In addition, his support for the mission of the University included participation in the El Salvador delegation, service as co-director of the SHU-St. Charles Health and Wellness Center and participation in the Gulf Coast delegation to Mississippi after Hurricane

Katrina. Emery also served as an outstanding mentor for faculty, colleagues and students. His energy, commitment to excellence, collegiality, sense of humor and dedication to both the faculty and students were instrumental in keeping Sacred Heart successful and mission-focused.

- **MICHELLE LORIS, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND INTERIM DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**, who was honored for her devotion to Sacred Heart, both as an

alumnus and faculty member. For 40 years, she has taught and advised students. As director of the Human Journey Common Core, she brought national recognition to Sacred Heart University. She organized The Human Journey Colloquia Series to complement the Common Core curriculum, providing wide-ranging programs where every student can find something of interest. Loris is passionate about her work and serves as a mentor to both students and colleagues, inspiring them to do their best. She was named the 2013 Connecticut Professor of the Year.



Michelle Loris '70

- **ED MALIN, PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE ISABELLE FARRINGTON COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**, who is the longest-serving member of the University faculty. He is known for his thoughtfulness and joy, whether he is teaching a class, encouraging a colleague, leading

Ed Malin



a workshop, chairing a committee or singing at Mass. Malin and Sacred Heart University essentially grew up together as he moved steadily through the ranks, taking on increasingly more responsibility—most recently as the guiding light for the Isabelle Farrington

Anniversary Celebration

College of Education. His loyalty, wisdom and leadership have made SHU a better place.

- **MARY TREFRY, MANAGEMENT PROFESSOR**, who was honored for her passion for the study of organizational behavior and innovative teaching methods that allow students to vividly recognize and understand human dynamics in ways they never did before. She goes beyond the call of duty to be accessible to students with a problem or issue—even outside of class time or scheduled office hours. She is a model Sacred Heart University citizen, and her leadership and volunteerism serve as an example to students and colleagues alike. She is dedicated to academic excellence and is the embodiment of our commitment to dignity and the worth of every being. She works tirelessly and selflessly to further the interests of the University and the Welch College of Business, both in Connecticut and in Luxembourg.



Mary Trefry

Staff

The staff awards were presented by Robert Hardy, vice president of Human Resources, at the University's annual Founder's Day celebration. One retired and four current employees were honored. They are:

- **CYNTHIA CONTE, CAMPUS OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR**, who received the award for her leadership and dependability. Members of the Sacred Heart community have come to rely on a smooth transition whenever they have to move, and are confident in the knowledge that all setup logistics for their events will be secure in her hands. She is often one of the first people new employees see, and her welcoming demeanor reinforces their decision to join the SHU community. If there is a logistical problem, she cheerfully responds to calls at all hours of the day and night, and when setting up for events, she regularly reminds her staff that the work is not about setting up tables and chairs, but rather creating memories for those who will participate in the occasion.

- **JAMIE ROMEO, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETIC RECRUITMENT**, who was honored for his history with Sacred Heart, both as a student and an employee, which has made him a tremendous asset to the University. He has an outstanding reputation as a keen recruiter and a solid collaborator. His willingness to learn and grow has made him an expert in the transfer market, international market, graduate admissions market and the world of intercollegiate athletics. He led a team that collaborated with the SHU community



Cynthia Conte

to increase freshman enrollment by 46 percent and is a shining example of how to learn from a mentor and go on to mentor others.

- **NANCY SIDOTI, RETIRED**, who was a positive influence, role model and mentor to many during her long career at SHU. She set an example by continuing her education and moving up through the ranks. She provided guidance as an academic adviser, assistant dean and dean for University College, and made a difference to both students and teachers. During her tenure, she created the Center for Financial Education and expanded the non-degree certificate programs. Since retiring, she continues to play an important role with SHU as the founder of SHARP (Sacred Heart Association of Retired Professionals), which allows retirees to remain connected to former colleagues and to the University.

- **DENISE TIBERIO, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENTS**, who is an alumna of Sacred Heart University with both bachelor's and master's degrees and was a perfect choice to join the University as assistant director of Student Activities. Then and now, her influence is felt. During her tenure, she has introduced or enhanced Family Weekend, Campus Life Leadership Awards, the Student Orientation program and the Student Affairs Lecture Series, and in recent years has played an integral role in the growth of Greek Life and the performing arts. Her success as an inspiring example to others can be seen in her previous honors: *Prologue* dedications in 1995 and 2008 and the Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award in 1998.

- **TAVARES TUCK**, who has continually sought opportunities for promotions and greater responsibility. Since joining the Athletic Department, he has attended and set up for every game on campus, from football and field hockey to fencing and



Jamie Romeo '96, '04 MAT



Nancy Sidoti '87, '93 MAT



Denise Tiberio '89, '93 MAT



Tavares Tuck

COMMENCEMENT

50th Anniversary Medal Winners

softball. He is a passionate fan of the Pioneers who is always ready with an update for someone who missed a game, and he takes every loss personally. On game days, he is the first person to arrive in the morning and the last to leave. He knows all the student-athletes by name and is quick to share friendship and advice during their time here and beyond. He is not only respected in the Athletics Department but throughout the entire University community.

Retired Faculty

During the annual Faculty Reception in May, four retired faculty members were awarded the medal by Niesen de Abruna. They are:

- **RALPH CORRIGAN** who was honored for his work in the English Department, including five years as chair. He was founding editor

of the *Connecticut English Journal*. He was affectionately called "The Slasher" by his journalism and writing students because of his no-holds-barred editing style. During his 14 years as adviser to the *Spectrum*, he took special pride in the staff's accomplishments and national awards. He participated in SHU's first delegation to El Salvador in 1992, exemplifying Sacred Heart's mission, and he helped to start Operation Bridgeport, a working retreat that introduced faculty and staff to the problems of the inner city. He was also among the first faculty members on campus to introduce service learning into courses. Corrigan is a recipient of the Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Award and was among 10 finalists for the national Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service-Learning. He is the author of *Answering the Call*.

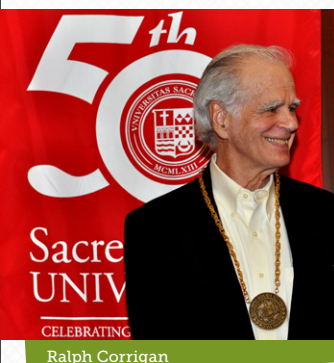
- **RAWLIN "PETE" FAIRBAUGH** who started at SHU as an adjunct professor of business in 1973 while working at Pitney Bowes Corporation. After retiring from corporate life, he became a full-time associate professor of business in 1987. In 1988, he was appointed MBA director and, in 1991, he conceived and founded the Luxembourg MBA program. In 2004, he founded the Center for Strategic Planning for Not-for-Profit Organizations. This was implemented through the capstone MBA class by assigning projects to graduating

students who would assist needy not-for-profits with their strategic planning processes. He also taught an international business seminar each year from 1996 to 2007 in the College for Modern Business Studies in Tatabanya, Hungary. Fairbaugh retired in 2011 after 30 years with SHU and was named Professor Emeritus that year.

- **JOHN KIKOSKI** who was honored for his focus on students. As the sole full-time faculty member in the History & Political Science

Department in 1980, he increased the number of majors from six to 26 in just two years. By 1986, when he became chair of a separate Political Science Department, that number had increased to 44. His students considered him not only their professor, but a lifelong friend. He established the internship programs that placed SHU students in delegations of sovereign states with members of the United Nations; in the Connecticut State Legislature and departments of the state government; with city and town managers across the state; and in international nonprofit/helping organizations. He also served the students as pre-law adviser and adviser to the Young Democrats, College Republicans, Student Government and Pi Omicron Lambda Honor Society. He organized numerous day trips to New York City, where students toured the United Nations and had hour-long sessions with diplomats, ranging from the USSR to the USA, from Israel to the Palestine Liberation Organization and from the United Kingdom to Germany. He also initiated the three-day trip to Washington, D.C., for the presidential inaugurations that continues to this day. Kikoski was dedicated to his colleagues, serving twice as president of the Faculty Senate and as a member of numerous committees.

- **CONSTANCE YOUNG** who joined Sacred Heart at the startup of the baccalaureate nursing program. Her knowledge, philosophy and previous experience influenced the design and ongoing improvement of the program, which has grown from an initial cohort of 30 to more than 300. She was co-chair of the Statewide Articulation Plan for Nursing Education in the '90s and helped to facilitate the transfer of nursing credits to baccalaureate nursing programs from associate degree and hospital-based nursing programs. She was the recipient of the Connecticut Nurses Association's prestigious Josephine Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education in 1998. She taught in both the undergraduate and graduate programs and developed the program's ethics course. She was also involved in the early use of online teaching as well as on-site teaching at area hospitals. Young was active in the nursing national honor society as past president and member of the board of directors of the local chapter, Mu Delta, STTI (Sigma Theta Tau International). Upon her retirement, she started the iFund—an incidental fund for undergraduate nursing students to help them pay for needed books and supplies. That has since grown to be an endowed fund.



Ralph Corrigan



Rawlin "Pete" Fairbaugh



John Kikoski



Constance Young



Cancer survivors take the first lap during the annual Relay For Life in the Pitt Center on April 25.

Sixth Annual Relay For Life Strives for More Birthdays

The Sixth Annual Relay For Life event took place April 25–26 and raised a record-breaking \$43,000. This year's theme was a giant birthday party—commemorating the many birthdays that will be celebrated by cancer survivors as a result of this fundraiser. Relay For Life at Sacred Heart is organized by students in support of the American Cancer Society.

President John Petillo and sophomore John Hallak, a brain cancer survivor, opened the ceremonies, followed by a survivors' walk around the track that brought together alumni, students, faculty members and family members who cheered each other on. Entertainment was provided by SHU Choir students, the SHU

Dance Ensemble and popular singer Bill Haug '12, as well as through nonstop activities such as karaoke, a photo challenge, Zumba and more. Speakers included Samantha Novack '14, luminaria speaker; survivors Sabina Petillo and Professor Shirley Pavone; and alumnus Robert Valluzzo '80.

For the first time, the University's Relay committee partnered with the Town of Fairfield to collect canned food from attendees as part of the town's 375th anniversary activities. The first selectman of Fairfield, Michael Tetreau, was on hand to celebrate the night and present the University with a proclamation declaring April 25–26 as Relay For Life Day at Sacred Heart. ☺



WHITE ribbon PROJECT



Male students kicked off the White Ribbon Campaign by signing a petition on February 26 to put an end to violence against women.

In February, members of the Iota Tau Chapter of Delta Tau Delta hosted a White Ribbon Campaign event to help raise awareness of domestic violence and end abuse against women. The fraternity partnered with the Center for Family Justice in Bridgeport on the initiative and joined with Fairfield to make it a town-wide event. Participating students went to the Governor's Mansion in Hartford on May 9 for a special event where they pinned a white ribbon on Governor Dannel Malloy, bringing even more awareness to the project.



WALK A MILE *in Her Shoes*

Members of Delta Tau Delta and the wrestling team participated in the Center for Family Justice-sponsored Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® in downtown Fairfield on May 3, an event to raise awareness against rape, sexual assault and gender violence. SHU won an award for the largest team. Check out photos from this event.



MISSION TRIPS 2014 COSTA RICA EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HAITI MEXICO

Keshal Desai uses his sawing skills at a Habitat home in West Virginia.

U.S.A.

Students Set Out on Missions with Heart

The hearts of Sacred Heart University students lie in their dedication to community service. During the school's spring break, student volunteers made a difference in the world by tending to the needs of local, national and international communities. This year, more than 50 students visited poverty-stricken areas of El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Haiti and Mexico as part of annual service trips sponsored by the Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning.

The students volunteered on a variety of projects during the trips. For example, led by student leader Michaela Albano, one group assisted the nonprofit Haiti Plunge by helping to build a road in Haiti.

This year, the University also added a trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, and there is a possibility of continued expansion, said Matthew Kaye, director of the Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning. "I am working with a couple of professors to develop service programs in Bangladesh and the Dominican Republic. I look forward to getting these programs off the ground."

Sacred Heart University partnered with Tecnológico de Costa Rica, a university in Costa Rica, to collaborate with other college students. Nicole Gittleman, who led the Costa Rican delegation, described the experience as "eye opening. Living with host families was a perfect way for students to experience the culture," she said.

In addition to the international service trips, over 90 students participated in the University's annual Habitat for Humanity spring projects. Students assisted in building homes for low-income families and, in some cases, had the opportunity to meet the families they were helping. Student Life sponsored trips to Florida, South Carolina, Texas, Washington and West Virginia this year.

Senior and student leader Jeff Daley has been on several trips for Habitat for Humanity and believes his college experience is truly enriched by volunteering. "You see the result of your service. We come together as a family and work hard every day to help provide a family with a fresh new start," he said.

In 2013, Sacred Heart University was recognized on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its exemplary dedication to community service. ☺

EL SALVADOR



ABOVE Students help to recycle bottles for a kidney disease campaign in El Salvador during spring break 2014. AT RIGHT A Habitat contingent in Florida.

GUATEMALA



U.S.A.





AT RIGHT On the Simply Smiles mission trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, are, from left, Adviser and Professor Christina Gunther, Michelle Henault, Jamie O'Donoghue, Allison Coll, Gaby Chavez Hernandez and Lauren Fox.

College of Health Professions Teams Up with Simply Smiles

Several exercise science students from the College of Health Professions and one student from the John F. Welch College of Business spent this past spring break on a mission trip to Oaxaca, Mexico.

This was a pilot trip initiated by Valerie Wherley, an exercise science professor at the University, and offered by the Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning to determine whether Oaxaca would be a good service learning fit for students in the exercise science program.

For this mission trip, the College of Health Professions teamed up with the organization Simply Smiles, which has ongoing projects in Oaxaca. Simply Smiles is dedicated to building bright futures while improving the daily lives of impoverished children. Gabriela Chavez Hernandez, a business student at SHU who is originally from the Oaxaca area but is currently living in Southport, is sponsored by the program.

"Professor Scott Aliberti first brought Simply Smiles to the attention of Matthew Kaye, director of the Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning," said Chavez Hernandez. "Kaye then introduced Simply Smiles to the College of Health Professions, because they were looking for a new place to go on service trips. I was very excited and hoped that the University would go to Oaxaca. Having the opportunity to bring my University to Oaxaca meant so much to me."

Chavez Hernandez has been involved with Simply Smiles since its founding back in 2003. She was living in its inaugural project—Casa Hogar Children's Home, based in Oaxaca City—when Bryan Nurnberger founded the organization. Chavez Hernandez was at the children's home not because she was an orphan but because in her small village, three hours away, education ended after the sixth grade. Her parents decided to send her to Casa Hogar to

continue her studies. When Chavez Hernandez graduated from high school in 2007, she began looking for colleges in Oaxaca City, but Simply Smiles offered her the opportunity to come to the United States, and she became a student at Sacred Heart University in the fall of 2013.

The students who took part in this service learning trip participated in various activities that included providing and serving meals to orphans in Oaxaca; visiting the families who live at the Oaxaca dump, taking them on an excursion to the park and providing them with a meal; doing some building work at a middle school in the Zapotec village of Santa María Tepexipana; providing and serving a meal to all schoolchildren in the Zapotec village; and organizing and distributing food to approximately 800 people in the villages surrounding Santa María Tepexipana.

"My favorite part of the mission trip was visiting the Casa Hogar Children's Home," said junior Lauren Fox, an exercise science student from Bridgewater, Mass. "The children of Casa Hogar displayed a unique sense of hope and resilience for change in the future. I view Casa Hogar as the place where my overall outlook on life was changed forever. I met so many inspiring individuals—not only at Casa Hogar, but in Oaxaca City as a whole. The people of Oaxaca are the strongest individuals I have ever encountered, and I am so thankful for the impact that each of them made on my life. A piece of my heart will always be with the inspiring individuals of Oaxaca."

"Ever since I was admitted to Sacred Heart University, I felt lucky and proud," said Chavez Hernandez. "After this trip to Oaxaca, I feel even more fortunate to be a SHU student, because this trip has given me the chance to see and believe that there are still people out there who want to make the world a better place." ❧



2014

Alumni Participate

IN COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION

In celebration of SHU's 50th Anniversary, alumni from each decade of SHU's history—the '60s through the 2010s—were invited to participate.



TOP The alumni procession makes its way through the sea of graduates. MIDDLE From left, Class of 1967 alumni Janice J. Greiser, Mario D. Bonetti and Robert J. Breese were part of the procession. BOTTOM In the alumni procession are, from left, Richard Kuroghlian '90, Matt Fortney '98, Claudette Thompson '98, '05 MBA, Sylvia M. Barchue '05 and Kristen Lalla '97.

IN THE END, REPRESENTATIVES TURNED OUT FROM ALMOST EVERY GRADUATION YEAR. Our alumni participants were:

Sylvia M. Barchue '05	Kristen E. Lalla '97
Dennis J. Bartley, Jr. '02	Robert Malek '72
Mario D. Bonetti '67	Elizabeth E. McCauley '80
Robert J. Breese '67	Shaun M. Mitchell '08, '09 MAT
Cheryl A. Brennan '92, '11 MBA	Michael A. Pavia '70
Raymond P. Cassidy '88 MBA	Matthew C. Reale, Esq. '86
Jennifer M. Corsano '05	John M. Ruzicka '06
John A. Croffy, Jr. '82	Roscoe Samuel '87 MBA
Anthony R. Daddona '69	Robert M. Scarpetti, Jr. '86, '94 MBA
Eileen M. DeVore '78	Gail M. Solis '86, '91 MBA
Nicholas Diieso '10	Angelina R. Staltaro '75
David DiVincenzo '93	Judy A. Stevens, Esq. '80
Steven M. Dzik '96	Barb A. Susi '75
Matthew W. Fortney '98	Claudette H. Thompson '98, '05 MBA
Michelle M. Friedrich '00	Carol A. Timpanelli '70
Lynn R. Gorsuch '68	Paul S. Timpanelli, Jr. '69
Janice J. Greiser '67	Carole J. Trombley '74
Karen N. Guastelle '88, '94 MBA	Peter J. Trombley '71
David C. Howe '75	Douglas H. Wade, Jr. '77
Jocelyne L. Hudson-Brown '12 MACOMM	Brian F. Wilmot '97
Rebecca A. Jadach '04	Karen S. Zaneski-Malek '76
Michael C. Koosa '01	Kathleen P. Zelle-Duke '78, '82 MBA
Richard E. Kuroghlian '90	

COMMENCEMENT

Caps Off!



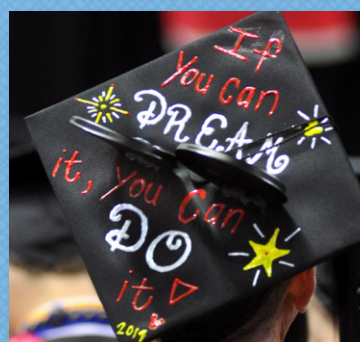
2014

In recent years, it has become a trend—at Sacred Heart and at colleges across the country—for students to decorate their commencement caps with messages and artwork.

While “thanks mom & dad” is the most popular sentiment, some students are much more creative than that! Here are some examples of “last words” from SHU graduates.



The popularity of cap decorating was evident at this year's ceremony.



ATTENTION:
PIONEER
NATION!

SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING 2014: SEPTEMBER 19-21



FULL SCHEDULE TO BE ANNOUNCED

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#).

New Alumni Association Board Members Named



Rich Kuroghlian

A 1990 graduate of Sacred Heart University and an alumnus of Notre Dame High School, Rich Kuroghlian is a lifelong resident of Fairfield County. "I am honored to be a member of the Alumni Board and able to remain part of the Sacred Heart community. Sacred Heart was such a big part of my life, and to be able to return is exciting," he said. He currently resides in Trumbull with his wife, Suzanne Fisher-Kuroghlian '93, and daughter Kylie.



Dan Pascone

Dan Pascone is a 2006 graduate of Sacred Heart University where he received a bachelor's degree in finance/sport management. In 2012, he completed his master's in business administration at the John F. Welch School of Business. He is a national sales desk manager at Prudential Annuities. As the leader of a team of 15 regional sales consultants, he is responsible for the performance and professional development of each of his direct reports, as well



as the overall strategic sales execution of the organization. He is recognized as a "competent communicator" in the Toastmasters International Communication program and is an avid golfer and sports fan. He resides in Fairfield with his wife Shannon.

Continuing the Tradition:

ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES

IN THE LAST INSTALLMENT OF OUR THREE-PART SERIES, WE LOOK THROUGH THE SCORES OF SACRED HEART graduates, revealing that many families have adopted the SHU tradition as their own, with siblings, cousins and children following in their predecessors' footsteps onto the Fairfield campus. These legacy families show how the University's community instills loyalty as contagious as it is strong. As we celebrate Sacred Heart's 50th anniversary, we also celebrate the families who are so much a part of our history.

The Welch Family BY IRA MORRISON



BILL AND JOAN WELCH AT A SHU DANCE IN THE SPRING OF 1985

Joan and Bill Welch (both Class of 1986) say their lives were changed forever as a result of attending Sacred Heart University. For them, it was about new beginnings, second chances and paths to happier, more fulfilling lives.

Joan hadn't planned on attending college, she recalls. After graduating from Notre Dame

High School in Fairfield, she thought she'd be working to help support her family. Her father was a disabled war veteran, and her mom stayed home to care for her brother, a special-needs child. Joan had lost a sister a few years earlier; it had been her sister's dream to go to college. Joan says that that dream—plus the urging of her best friend—convinced her to apply to nearby Sacred Heart.

A month after starting classes, that same friend (also a SHU alum) introduced her to Bill during Sadie Hawkins Weekend in 1982, and the cast, she says, was set—they've been together ever since and now have three children, Amanda, Mathew and Timothy. Mathew is currently attending SHU (Class of 2017), studying athletic training. He also helps manage the men's basketball team.

Joan says their professional lives were launched by Sacred Heart after being chosen for a career-development pilot program called Operation Success. The program introduced students to area professionals and provided networking, interviewing and resume-building skills. She and Bill worked with a

manager at Aetna, who offered them internships in Trumbull. That opportunity was the start of her 25-year insurance career. Bill was hired through SHU's Career Development and Placement Center by a medical supply company, where he also remained for close to 25 years.

"Today," says Bill, "our middle son Mathew has started his own journey at Sacred Heart. He has made many friends and has grown into a confident, caring and hardworking young man. We are so blessed for the role Sacred Heart has played in our lives and now in our son's life. Additionally, Joan, Mathew and I were blessed to be invited to participate in SHU's 50th Anniversary Mass. There we renewed our vows in front of our children and friends as we celebrated 25 years of marriage."

"The people we met at Sacred Heart, whether professionals, associates or friends, helped shape our futures and remained a part of our lives through our marriage, the birth of our children and beyond," Joan adds. "Sacred Heart was about beginnings. It helped launch our careers, but more importantly, it launched our legacy."



DURING THE ANNUAL ALUMNI MASS IN THE CHAPEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE, FROM LEFT, JACK WELCH, JOAN B. WELCH, BILL WELCH '86, JOAN V. WELCH '86, MATHEW WELCH '17, AMANDA WELCH AND TIMOTHY WELCH.

Continuing the Tradition: ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES



PROFESSORS SUSAN DENISCO, LEFT, AND JULIE STEWART HOOD DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE GRADUATE LUCIA FONTES-BORTS '14.

Lucia Fontes-Borts and Andrew Borts

BY IRA MORRISON

Attending a university that is significant to your family for one reason or another is always particularly meaningful. In previously published Legacy Family Profiles, the younger generation has followed in the footsteps of their predecessors to attend Sacred Heart University. In this case, Lucia Fontes-Borts '14 DNP was inspired by her son, Andrew Borts '14, to attend Sacred Heart.

"When I was a freshman at SHU, my mom told me she was going to start working on her doctoral degree and that she had chosen to do that at Sacred Heart. I was excited for her because I know how much of an emphasis she puts on continuing education," Andrew says. In May, Lucia completed SHU's doctorate in nursing program, while Andrew simultaneously graduated with his bachelor's degree from the John F. Welch College of Business.

Lucia's decision to attend Sacred Heart was inspired by her love for her son. The lengthy commute from her home in Providence, R.I., and the long hours were outweighed by the shared college experience and mutual support. Lucia notes, "I have completely enjoyed my three years at SHU in the DNP program. The professional growth that I've undergone has been enhanced by the joy I felt as a parent attending the same college as my son and watching him thrive." Lucia was able to watch Andrew excel both in the classroom and as a member of the Division I men's soccer team.

Lucia, a nurse at the Comprehensive Care Center at Rhode Island Hospital, credits her success at SHU to her professors. "My success in the program would not have been possible without

These legacy families show how the University's community instills loyalty as contagious as it is strong.



Sacred Heart
UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013

strong mentorship and advice from Professors Susan Denisco and Julie Stewart. I've happily watched and benefited from the program's quality and professional growth." Lucia's work ethic and values have rubbed off on Andrew, as he has created a bright future for himself with a full-time job beginning in August at financial giant UBS. "SHU gave me a solid foundation, and I credit my professors, coaches and internships for setting me up for success after graduation," he says.

Andrew states that his grandfather, an economics professor at Brown University for 63 years, was a factor in his choosing SHU's Welch College of Business for his undergraduate studies. Once there, Andrew thrived under the direction of experienced professors and a combination of theoretical and hands-on learning experiences. He says his professors encouraged him to pursue financial internships, and their contacts at major firms helped open doors for him and fellow students.



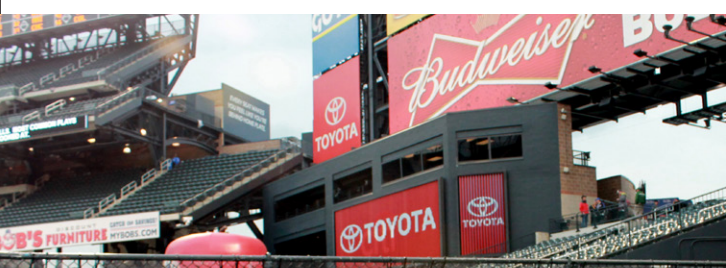
ANDREW BORTS '14

Following dual graduation celebrations, Andrew will move to New York City to begin his career, and Lucia will be seeing less of Connecticut and Sacred Heart soccer games. "Through both my classes and soccer, I've made friends and learned lessons I'll have for the rest of my life," Andrew says. "As a freshman, I thought I wanted to play professional soccer, but SHU fostered growth across all aspects of my life and taught me about the importance of serving others and working toward my potential."

Andrew and Lucia will always have these memories of the three years spent supporting one another as they pursued their respective dreams, and their passion for and love of Sacred Heart will be something they continue to

share. Reflecting back on their hectic Commencement weekend, Andrew says, "Graduating together was one of the most rewarding feelings—not just for me, but for both of us."

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS



ABOVE From left are Derick Horn '14, Robbie Maguire '14, Conor McEvoy '14, Nick Leiningen '14, SHU's Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and former Met Bobby Valentine, Dan Perez '14, Kody Kerski '14, Nick Morrissey '15 and Mike Lembo '16. All are members of the baseball team.

1 — SOFTBALL WINE TASTING: FEBRUARY 21

A group enjoys wine and company at an event supporting SHU softball.

2 — ALUMNI AUTHORS SHOWCASE SERIES: MEET THE AUTHORS: MARCH 19

From left, alumni authors Christopher Conway '92, Adrian Stroud '82 and Dawn Foss '06, '08 MSN speak to students about their literary works and their SHU experiences.

3 — BOSTON YOUNG ALUMNI RECEPTION AT HARPOON BREWERY: MARCH 30

Young alumni living in the Boston area caught up with their fellow Pioneers while enjoying a tour of Harpoon Brewery.

4 — STUDENTS TODAY, ALUMNI TOMORROW YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORKING PANEL: MARCH 25

Nine young alumni returned to campus to talk to current students about life after graduation. Panelists (from left to right) were Brandon Clark '06, Laura Scaglione '08, Matt Telvi '09, Corey Osoba '09,

Stephanie Kanner '11, Zack Lane '11, Jacqueline Stephens '08, '10 MSOT, Alyssa DiMaria '08 and George Barker '12.

5 — ALUMNI DAY OF SERVICE WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: APRIL 12

A group of alumni and students worked with Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County for a day of community service, coordinated by the Community Service Committee of the Alumni Association.

6 — CITI FIELD BASEBALL FUNDRAISER: APRIL 22

Over 100 alumni, parents, supporters and current team members showed their support for SHU Pioneer baseball by attending a fundraiser held at Citi Field as the NY Mets took on the St. Louis Cardinals on April 22.

7 — JASON GUBERMAN-PFEFFER '09: FROM SHU TO SEFROU: APRIL 29

Jason Guberman-Pfeffer '09 presented his talk, "From SHU to Sefrou," on April 29 in the Schine Auditorium. He talked about his days as a SHU student and his recent efforts in digitally mapping Middle Eastern Jewish history.

UPCOMING EVENTS

'70s Biology and Chemistry Reunion

Saturday, July 12
Hearth Room, Fairfield Campus

Homecoming 2014

"A Celebration of Pioneer Nation"
Friday, September 19 through
Sunday, September 21
Fairfield Campus

Beta Delta Phi 45th Anniversary

Saturday, October 18
University Commons, Fairfield Campus

TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS AND/OR
VIEW THE FULL EVENTS CALENDAR, visit
<http://alumni.sacredheart.edu>



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The Beach Boys

A record-setting
\$750,000
RAISED

25th Annual Discovery Gala





25th Annual Discovery Gala Sets Off “Good Vibrations”

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY HOSTED ITS 25TH ANNUAL DISCOVERY Scholarship Gala on Saturday, April 12. This year’s event raised a record-breaking \$750,000 for student scholarships. Over the past two decades, SHU’s Discovery Gala has raised millions of dollars for student financial aid. This year’s event celebrated Sacred Heart’s 50th anniversary, the Gala’s 25th year and the hundreds of scholarship students who have benefited from the funds raised at the Gala over the past quarter century.

Following a cocktail party at the Linda McMahon Commons, attendees headed to the newly renovated Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts for a concert by the Beach Boys. Often called “America’s Band,” the Beach Boys had 36 Top 40 hits in the United States—more than any other American rock band.

Guests were treated to such favorites as “Surfin’ USA,” “Surfer Girl,” “Good Vibrations,” “Help Me Rhonda” and more.

Organizers are grateful to everyone who made this year’s Gala such a tremendous success. The funds raised from the Gala will provide opportunities for students who might otherwise be unable to attend Sacred Heart.

> [View additional photos from the big event!](#)

OPPOSITE PAGE: TOP The Beach Boys perform. MIDDLE Guests enjoy the Gala. BOTTOM Student scholarship recipients with President Petillo. THIS PAGE: Trustee Bill Mitchell takes the Edgerton stage with scholarship students before the concert.



Pioneer Open

FRIENDS OF SHU TEED OFF ON JUNE 9 FOR THE ANNUAL PIONEER OPEN, a golf tournament fundraiser to benefit student scholarships. This year, the big event took place at the award-winning Lake of Isles golf course at Foxwoods Resort Casino. The tournament raised close to \$230,000 for scholarships—it was also part of SHU’s 50th anniversary celebration. A special thank you goes out to all the sponsors, including Anniversary sponsors Chartwells and Turner Construction and Diamond sponsor Lanese Construction. 🏌️

Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Bobby Valentine



ABOVE (INSET) From left are Malcolm MacKenzie of MacKenzie Painting Co.; Mike Lipsette of Connecticut Pest Elimination; Jim Morley, chairman of SHU’s Board of Trustees and Mark Fries of People’s United Insurance.

Thanking Our Donors

Gifts to Sacred Heart University enhance the educational experience our students receive and are instrumental in transforming them into critical thinkers and compassionate leaders. SHU is grateful to our donors—at every level. We proudly recognized all donors, including students, faculty, staff, friends, alumni and parents, at special events throughout the year.

President's Leadership Society

On April 5, President's Leadership Society members enjoyed a 1920s-themed reception in the Art & Design Gallery atrium in conjunction with the student production of *Chicago* on the Edgerton stage. The Society recognizes donors who make gifts of \$1,500 or more within the current fiscal year. To find out more about the President's Leadership Society, please visit www.sacredheart.edu/leadershipsociety.



Campus Donor Day

The third annual Campus Donor Day took place May 1 in the Art & Design Gallery atrium, recognizing faculty, staff and student donors with a special lunch. Faculty and staff generously donated over \$114,000 and students gave \$10,500. Dessert was provided by the Sugar Bakery Cupcake Truck.



Student Philanthropy Week



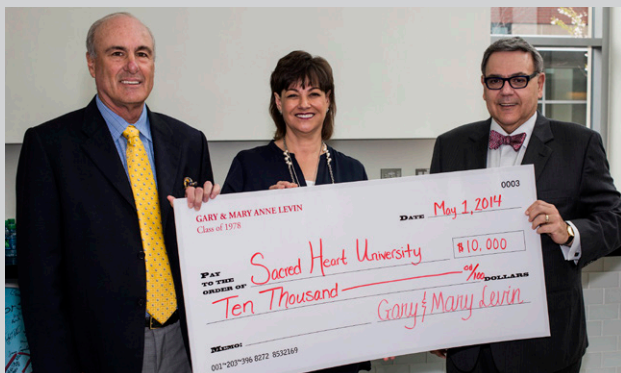
In February, over 300 students hand wrote thank-you notes to more than 1,500 donors as part of Student Philanthropy Week activities.



TOP LEFT President's Leadership Society members Joan and Ernest Trefz TOP RIGHT From left are Parent Council members Ilene Cooke, David Newton, Despina Albulescu, Henry Albulescu and President Petillo. MIDDLE LEFT College of Arts & Sciences Interim Dean Michelle Loris, right, presents a check with faculty and staff donations to President Petillo. MIDDLE RIGHT The Sugar Bakery Cupcake Truck at Campus Donor Day AT LEFT AND ABOVE Student Philanthropy Week

FOREVER PIONEERS

Forever Pioneers: Students Giving Back to SHU



CREATING A TRADITION TAKES TIME, but a relatively new committee at Sacred Heart University is finding success in its efforts to encourage students to give back to SHU even before they graduate. The Forever Pioneers launched in 2011 as the Senior Class Gift Program. When it expanded last year to include all underclassmen, the program raised \$5,200 from student donations. This year it more than doubled that total, bringing in over \$10,500 from more than 325 student Pioneers.

"It's important for students and alumni to give back to SHU because the University has given so much to us," says Michaela Albano '15, a Forever Pioneers committee member.

Students can choose where their donations make an impact, from scholarships to the library and community service programs to specific colleges within the University and more. "These donations will provide new opportunities for current and future Pioneers," says Albano, a business administration and economics major from Longmeadow, Mass. "Anyone who graduates from SHU knows how much this place changed us, how much it helped us grow as individuals and as a community. Donating to SHU reminds us that we are forever Pioneers, even long after our four years are over."

In September 2013, SHU alumni Gary and Mary Anne Levin '78 challenged students to raise \$5,000 through the Forever Pioneers campaign. They offered to match donations dollar-for-dollar up to that amount. When students quickly blew by that mark, the Levins upped their challenge to \$10,000. Eventually, our students and the Levins raised more than \$21,000 for the 2013–2014 academic year.

The committee reached out to undergraduates in various ways, including emails, letters and special promotions. In one effort, the committee challenged student-athletes to solicit 100 percent participation

"Sacred Heart has given me so much during my four years here that I wanted to start with even a small donation so the school can continue to grow."
—VINCENT EBENAU '14

from their respective teams; the softball team met the challenge, becoming the first to achieve full participation.

"We want to increase awareness of the need for donations," says Andrew Borts '14, a finance and economics major from Barrington, R.I., who also serves on the committee. "A lot of people think that the school can cover expenses with just tuition when, in fact, the student experience would be greatly impacted without donations. So each year, the generosity of alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University is huge. The idea behind Forever Pioneers is that if students donate while they're still here, once they graduate, they'll continue to give back to Sacred Heart."

This past year, students were asked to donate \$5; seniors were asked for \$20.14 in a nod to their graduation year. One who gladly complied was senior media studies major Vincent Ebenau of Toms River, N.J. "Sacred Heart has given me so much during my four years here that I wanted to start with even a small donation so the school can continue to grow," he says. "I wanted to do

a little something to show gratitude to this University that's given me an awful lot to look forward to." Ebenau, like the other more than 325 student donors, heard the Forever Pioneers message: Give what you want, give where you want, but give from the Heart.



TOP LEFT Gary and Mary Levin present their generous donation to President Petillo as part of the Levin Challenge. BOTTOM RIGHT The Forever Pioneers and the softball team enjoy a Sound Tigers game at Webster Bank Arena. The softball team won the award for being the first athletic team to reach 100 percent participation of all its players.

STUDENT PHILANTHROPY WEEK

To further educate students about the impact donations have on their experience, the Forever Pioneers organized Student Philanthropy Week. The weeklong program was highlighted by a Tag Day,

where items, classrooms, labs and buildings were tagged across campus as part of the "Supported by Donations" event and a Thank-a-thon where students handwrote over 1,500 thank-you cards to donors.



SHU Me the Money

Sacred Heart University's Phonathon student callers raised more than \$93,786 from 1,455 donors during the 2013–2014 academic year. Meet some of the top student callers from our Phonathon Program and read what alumni and parents said about them:



Cali Inferred '17

"Cali was a pleasure to speak to. She is a great model of the outstanding SHU students!"

Raised: \$8,730



Grace Gillette '15

"A joyful call that made me feel reconnected to a school that has brought so much to my life."

Raised: \$8,376



Melissa Haggerty '16

"Ms. Haggerty is an asset to The University. She was polite and professional."

Raised: \$5,470



Rudy Favard '15

"Must be a great kid to get me to give up another 100 bucks! Go Heart!"

Raised: \$4,095



Chris Tartarone '16

"Very friendly. It was nice talking to a student that knows the school. Great job!"

Raised: \$2,235

SHU Phonathon Caller Evaluation

Please circle your response to each question and return this form with your gift.

Caller's Name: RUDYARD FAVARD

	1: Poor	2: Needs Improvement	3: Good	4: Very Good	5: Excellent
The student caller was friendly and enthusiastic.	1	2	3	4	5
The student caller provided me a update on SHU news & current campus events.	1	2	3	4	5
The student caller was knowledgeable about the Fund for Excellence.	1	2	3	4	5
The student caller verified and updated my information.	1	2	3	4	5
The student caller was able to answer questions that I had.	1	2	3	4	5

The overall quality of the call was:

Additional comments: MUST BE A GREAT KID TO GET ME TO GIVE UP ANOTHER 100 BUCKS! GO HEART!

Office of Annual Giving | 203.396.8272 | www.sacredheart.edu/phonathon

Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

The Fund for Excellence
Making The Heart Stronger

To learn more about the Phonathon, visit www.sacredheart.edu/phonathon

ANTHONY SCARAMUCCI GIVES \$100,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Anthony Scaramucci, founder and co-managing partner of SkyBridge Capital, a global alternative investment firm, has donated \$100,000 to Sacred Heart University for student scholarships. The gift will be used to establish the Anthony Scaramucci Scholarship Fund. Recipients of the fund will be students who are enrolled in the John F. Welch College of Business.

Scaramucci has a long history of philanthropy. He is a board member of Warrior Gateway and the Brain Tumor Foundation and serves on the Board of Advisers for the Harvard Law School Leadership Council. He previously served a five-year term on the board of the School of Arts & Sciences at Tufts University. He was honored in 2011 for his generosity by Hedge Fund Cares at its 13th Annual New York Open Your Heart to the Children Benefit and Alicia Keys' Keep a Child Alive 8th Annual Black Ball.

"My friend Bobby Valentine, who has long been involved with Sacred Heart, has shared with me the exciting way the school has grown in size and reputation over the past 50 years," Scaramucci says. "He also shared that the majority of the students would not be able to attend SHU without the help of those who support the University's scholarship funds."

Scaramucci founded SkyBridge Capital in 2005. Today the company serves a wide range of market participants through its investment portfolio and hedge fund advisory services. The firm also produces a large annual investment conference in the U.S. and Asia known as the SkyBridge Alternatives ("SALT") Conference.

A regular contributor to CNBC, Scaramucci is the author of *The Little Book of Hedge Funds: What You Need to Know About Hedge Funds but the Managers Won't Tell You* (Wiley: May 2012) and *Goodbye Gordon Gekko: How to Find Your Fortune Without Losing Your Soul* (Wiley: May 2010).

Prior to founding SkyBridge, he co-founded Oscar Capital Management, an investment partnership and managed accounts business, which was sold to Neuberger Berman, LLC in 2001. He holds a B.A. in economics from Tufts University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School and in 2011 earned the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® New York Award in the Financial Services category.

"After receiving an outstanding education at Tufts and Harvard Law School, I know the impact that college has on future success," Scaramucci says. "It is my pleasure to ensure that others have the same opportunities that I had."



Senior Class Honored at 22nd Annual Senior Awards Gala

THE DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS CELEBRATED THE CLASS OF 2014 at its 22nd Annual Senior Awards Gala. The members of the Pioneer senior class were honored for their success in the classroom and the athletic venue with numerous awards.

The ECAC Medal of Merit, presented to the male and female student-athletes who, on and off the playing surface, represent the best in athletic and academic excellence, went to Lindsay Aponte of the women's track and field team and Alex Aitkens of the football team.

Aitkens led the Pioneers to their first-ever FCS Tournament, serving as team captain during the 2013 NEC Championship campaign. His off-the-field contributions are of even greater import. He took part in a bone marrow drive sponsored by the Athletics Department, found out he was a match and donated to a man with lymphoma, saving his life.

Aponte will go down as one of the top shot putters in SHU history after winning three NEC and three New England titles in the event. As a junior, she earned All-East honors and was selected for the NCAA East Regional preliminary round. Aponte is a two-year team captain of the indoor track and field team and is the treasurer of the Pioneers' Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

The Athletic Director Award is presented to senior student-athletes who are voted to have had the best overall athletic career and are in good academic standing. The award was presented to baseball pitcher Kody Kerski and bowler Nicole Trudell. Trudell is a three-time All-America selection. She completed her career by averaging 197 pins per match. Kerski has one of the nation's best ERAs at 1.33. He has fanned 190 batters in his career and is 3-0 in NEC Tournament play, including complete-game wins in consecutive NEC Championship games, that propelled Sacred Heart to back-to-back NCAA Regional appearances.

The Executive Committee of SAAC presented its Outstanding Performance Award, for the best individual performance in the classes' time at Sacred Heart, to Brianna Castrogiovanni of the women's cross country and track and field programs. At the 2014 NEC Indoor Championship, the senior became the first female in league history to complete the distance triple—winning the mile, 3000m and 5000m runs. The effort earned Castrogiovanni MVP honors at the meet, as SHU captured its first-ever Indoor NEC team crown.

Neil Fachini from the men's ice hockey team was the winner of the Alvin Clinkscales Unsung Hero Award, presented to a senior who is a consistent and positive force in and outside of his or her sport. Fachini, a four-year letter winner, was a defenseman for nearly his entire career. Midway through his senior campaign, the Pioneer coaching staff asked him to move to forward. Without hesitation, Fachini made the move and substantiated why he wore the captain's "C" on his jersey this season.

Softball centerfielder Jade Bowins and Andrew Newbold, captain of the men's lacrosse team, received the Dr. Gary Rose ECAC Scholar-Athlete Award. Honorees have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and are starters or significant reserves for their teams. Bowins has started 187 of 189 games in her four-year career and was named Second-Team All-NEC as a sophomore.



From left are Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Bobby Valentine and ECAC Medal of Merit Award winners Alex Aitkens and Lindsay Aponte.

Newbold has led the Pioneers lacrosse team to consecutive NEC Tournament appearances. Over 46 career games, he has 124 ground balls, 59 caused turnovers and 13 points on 10 goals and three assists.

Two awards are presented annually, purely based on academic success, for graduating senior student-athletes. The C. Donald Cook Scholar-Athlete Society recognizes student-athletes who are graduating. This year they were Kevin Almerini (fencing), Lizzy Bennett (swimming), Bianca Boudreau (fencing), Hayle Boyle (track and field), Alyssa Brandofino (soccer), Jennifer Clinton (golf), Kaitlyn Doyle (track and field), Annie Dreher (softball), Stephanie Frye (field hockey), Derick Horn (baseball), Gabrial Kaldan (tennis), Katherine Knight (track and field), Blair Koniszewski (basketball), Taylor Lane (softball), Elise Lorenz (basketball), Mandy Montgomery (ice hockey), Zachary Moran (wrestling), Daniel Pepitone (track and field), Melissa Poli (cheerleading), Brendan Stokes (fencing), Margaret Tooley (tennis), Ronaldo Vieira (soccer) and Margaret Vogel (equestrian).

Almerini and Knight were presented the John Croffy Award for the highest GPA of the graduating class. Dreher and Andrew Borts of the men's soccer team were the recipients of the Lucy Cox Alumni Recognition Award, presented by 2001 Sacred Heart University alumnus Michael Koosa, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Three underclassmen were also honored at the event. Hannah Kimmel of the women's basketball team was named the Comeback Student-Athlete of the Year as she, in her third year at SHU, finally made her collegiate debut by starting the season opener against St. John's. Kimmel tore the same ACL in preseason each of her first two seasons, but completed the year-long rehabilitation process and earned All-NEC Rookie Team honors this season.

Runner Sean Ferguson and rower Jaclyn Smith received the Allyson Rioux Memorial Book Award, given annually in memory of the former student-athlete and SHU softball coach who passed away in 1989 after a long battle with cancer.

The Pioneers also presented several awards to members of the University community for their continued support of athletics. The Faculty/Student-Athlete Mentor Appreciation Award was given to Professor Pat Morris for his efforts with the Pioneer wrestling team. Professor John Gerlach received the Dr. Marian 'Bunny' Calabrese Spirit Award, given annually in honor of one of the Pioneers' biggest fans. Lisa Gallagher and Mark Tammone, both from Chartwells, received the Chip Kennedy Outstanding Contribution Award for their work in providing a positive experience at athletic events. Michael Redler was given special recognition for his 25 years of service to the Department of Athletics.



Gina Arnone '09— Women's Hockey Team

WHERE DO YOU LIVE NOW AND WHAT ARE YOU UP TO THESE DAYS?

I live in my hometown of Bridgewater, N.J. My family lives here, and it's important to me to remain near them. I am currently a licensed social worker and work for Zufall Health Center as the coordinator of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Initiative program. During the school year, I'm stationed at a high school with a large at-risk population. My main job is to promote healthy and safe relationships and limit the number of teen pregnancies. I also just finished my fourth season as a coach for the New Jersey Colonials Ice Hockey Organization.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY AS A PIONEER?

There are two favorites. The first is a team memory, which will always be my favorite. We played the University of Maine my senior year and beat them 3-2. It was the first time in Pioneer history that we had defeated a Division I team. The second memory is a personal one. We had a home game against RIT, and I had just reached the milestone of my 100th point as a Pioneer. During a stoppage of play, an announcement was made to honor the milestone. The fans cheered for a good 30 seconds, and I felt like I was on top of the world.

DO YOU STILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ANY OF YOUR FORMER TEAMMATES AND, IF SO, WHO?

Of course! I talk to Kristina Feltz and Whitney Dziama weekly. I plan to attend Sarah Turbert's wedding this summer with many of my former teammates. No matter what happens, the girls I played with in college will always be my teammates.

DO YOU STILL FOLLOW THE PIONEERS, AND WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PROGRAM TODAY?

I speak with Coach O'Malley a couple of times a year to talk about life and, of course, hockey always comes up.

AS AN ALUMNA OF SHU, WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO STAY CONNECTED?

As a Pioneer Club member, it is always important to give back. Hockey is why I went to Sacred Heart, and hockey is why I enjoyed college so much. Sports are such an important part of life and teach you the most valuable lessons. When you can give back—no matter how small the donation—you do it.



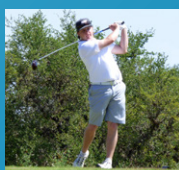
> Support current and future student athletes at
www.sacredheart.edu/goheart.

Eight Pioneer Teams Earn NCAA Public Recognition Awards

Eight Sacred Heart athletic programs were recognized for their academic achievements when the NCAA announced its Public Recognition Awards. The baseball, men's golf, men's indoor track, men's volleyball, women's basketball, women's cross country, women's ice hockey and women's soccer teams were recognized for scoring in the top 10 percent in each sport with respect to their Academic Progress Rates (APRs). Top-performing teams this year posted APR scores ranging from 980 to a perfect 1,000.

The Sacred Heart men's volleyball program has earned a Public Recognition Award in each of the nine years of the NCAA's academic reform program, one of just 146 teams to accomplish this feat. Sacred Heart is one of 58 institutions nationwide to have had at least one team win all nine years.

8
AWARDS



Bowling Team Finishes in Top Six at USBC Nationals

The bowling team finished in the top six in the USBC Intercollegiate Team Championship in Reno, Nev. The Pioneers were one of four undefeated teams after day one, but were knocked out of the double-elimination bracket by the eventual champion Robert Morris – Illinois and runner-up Lindenwood. Nicole Trudell and Katelyn Wilson led the team, averaging 197 throughout the tournament.

Trudell was named Second Team NTCA All-American for Bowling by the National Tenpin Coaches Association. This honor makes her a three-time All-American, having been named to the second team and NTCA Rookie of the Year in 2010-11, and to the third team her sophomore season. Earlier in the year, she was also named to the All-Northeast Conference first team and the Northeast Conference Championship All-Tournament team.



1st
TITLE

Women's Track Runs Away with First NEC Indoor Track Title

The women's track and field team won its first Northeast Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship, winning three events on the final day of competition. Senior Brianna Castrogiovanni was named the meet's MVP after winning the mile, 3000m and 5000m.



12,919
HOURS

Student-Athletes Volunteer an Unprecedented 12,919 Hours to Community Service

SHU student-athletes committed a total of 12,919 hours of community service during the 2013-14 academic year, surpassing a set goal of 10,000 hours for the year and nearly doubling the hours served during 2012-13. Select teams participated in events such as the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Westport and the Greater New Haven Heart Walk, while almost 7,000 hours were spent mentoring students and volunteering in and around Bridgeport.

"Every year we set a standard, and student-athletes not only answer the call, but amaze me in their selfless commitments to the community," said Lucy Cox, senior associate athletic director for Student-Athlete Support Services.

As a result, SHU is the recipient of the NEC Building Communities Award for the fourth year in a row. The award recognizes the institution that demonstrates the highest dedication to making an impact in the community through the efforts of its student-athletes, coaches and administrators.



Basketball Legends Bike and Pape Honored

During the March 1 basketball double-header, former basketball coach Dave Bike and Amanda Pape '07 were honored during halftime ceremonies. In addition, both teams celebrated Senior Day.

The women's team honored four seniors—Enjoli Bland, Blair Koniszewski, Elise Lorenz and Ericka Norman—and the men saluted their two seniors—Mostafa Abdel Latif and Louis Montes—prior to the start of their respective games.

Pape, the 2006 Northeast Conference Player of the Year, was honored at halftime of the women's game for her induction into the NEC Hall of Fame this season. She led the Pioneers to back-to-back NEC regular season championships in 2006 and 2007 and was the tournament MVP in 2006 when Sacred Heart won its first postseason tournament and earned a berth to the NCAA Tournament. The program's all-time leading scorer, Pape finished her playing career with 2,045 points.

Bike spent 35 seasons as the Pioneers' head men's basketball coach, and the Pitt Center playing floor was named in his honor when it was officially christened "Coach Bike Court" at halftime. Bike led Sacred Heart to 530 wins, including the 1986 NCAA Division II National Championship. The 1986 NABC National Coach of the Year, Bike coached the Pioneers to five consecutive NCAA Division II Regional Championships and seven consecutive appearances in the title game during the 1980s.



ABOVE Dave Bike addresses the crowd during the dedication of the basketball court in his name. INSET Don Cook, Amanda Pape and Bobby Valentine



Fencing practice

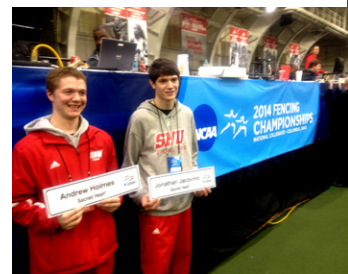
Fencing Teams Have a Tremendous Season

The men's fencing team posted its highest-ever team finish at the NCAA Fencing Championships, placing 11th in the team competition. The Pioneers' finish bests their 13th place in 2013. Juniors Andrew Holmes and Jonathan Jacovino both finished 11th in their respective events to earn Third-Team All-American honors.

"This was a great result for these amazing athletes and our program," said Head Coach Thomas Vrabel. "I am very pleased at how our fencers performed."

Prior to the NCAA Championships, the men's team swept all five of its matches in decisive fashion to win their fifth consecutive NFC Championship on the final date of the conference season. Coupled with the women's team's first NFC crown, the Pioneers shared the NFC Combined Title with Brown University. Both programs finished the conference season with 20-2 marks.

The women's team won all six of its matches at the University of New Hampshire in February, clinching its first NFC Championship on the final day of the conference season. In addition to sharing the Combined Title with Brown, the women shared the women's championship with the Brown Bears. The men also tied with Brown for the men's conference crown, which led to the Combined Title tie.



Andrew Holmes and Jonathan Jacovino



Women's fencing

Gabrielle Washington



Washington Breaks Scoring Record; Named to All-Metropolitan Second Team



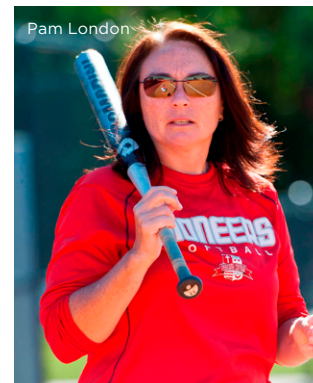
Gabrielle Washington was named to the All-Metropolitan second team by the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association. This is Sacred Heart's first year belonging to the MBWA.

This season, Washington made history by becoming the first player in the Northeast Conference to record back-to-back 30+-point games when she tallied 35 against Robert Morris and 32 against Saint Francis U in the opening weekend of conference play. She outdid herself in the Pioneers' last game of the season in the first round of the NEC Tournament against SFU. The All-NEC first team selection broke both the program's single-game scoring record, which stood for 29 years, and the NEC Tournament record when she scored 47 points in SHU's 132-124 double overtime loss to the Red Flash.

Bippy Luckie



Pam London



Luckie and London Recognized for Career Achievements

Co-head softball coaches Elizabeth 'Bippy' Luckie and Pam London were both honored this spring with career achievement awards. Luckie received the Mary Bike Memorial Award given by the Greater Bridgeport Athletic Association (Old Timers), while London was inducted into the Connecticut Scholastic and Collegiate Softball Hall of Fame. Luckie arrived at Sacred Heart in 1982 as a softball and basketball player and is entering her 26th season as head softball coach, sharing the post with London since 2007. London has been a member of the coaching staff for the last 25 years.

Equestrian Allison Buccos



Allison Buccos Competes in Equestrian Nationals

After coming in fifth in intermediate horsemanship at the IHSA Semi-Final Championship April 6, SHU's Allison Buccos went home knowing she just missed a trip to the National Championship. However, as the first alternate, she received an invitation to compete for a national title when one of the four qualifiers was unable to compete. Buccos came in sixth in intermediate horsemanship at the IHSA National Championship at the University of Findlay in Ohio.



From left are SHU Biology Professor Mark Beekey, Liz Buttner of the CT State Department of Higher Education, Sarah Michaels of Clark University, SHU Education Professor Bonnie Maur, Jean Moon of Tidemark Institute and Brian Reiser of Northwestern University.

Math and Science Partnership Grant Secured

The Isabelle Farrington College of Education has received a Math and Science Partnership grant in the amount of \$349,546 from the State of Connecticut. Phase I of the grant will provide training of institutions of higher education faculty, student teaching supervisors and in-service teachers throughout the state. This phase also creates one unit of online professional development that can be used for statewide training.

Phase II will provide additional training for student teachers, giving them updates to university methods curricula, and will create two more units of online professional development training for teachers statewide. Professor Bonnie Maur and Annette (Hird) Carbone, academic grants writer, worked on the application and were instrumental in securing the grant.

"The purpose of the grant is to ensure that we begin the process of training not only the teachers of today, but also the teachers of tomorrow," says Maur. "This program is designed for university professors, scientists, classroom teachers, student teachers and student teaching supervisors with a strong desire to inspire others in the area of science practices, science content and instructional strategies. The participants will be given the tools to promote enhanced science instruction and student learning throughout teacher preparatory programs and K-12 schools, strengthen teachers' understanding of science content and assist in the development of a more effective scientific teaching practice that will allow students to reach high standards."

For the first time, university professors will collaborate to ensure that methods classes for pre-service teachers will be updated to include the practices of the National Research Council's framework. Additionally, the grant will provide consistency in coursework for all pre-service teachers throughout the state and will create professional development that can be used by school districts statewide. ☺



Biology Instructor Adam Rudman, second from left, teaches local school-children about Project *Limulus* along with SHU students.

Project *Limulus* Film Honored; Project Receives Funding

A film entitled Project *Limulus*, produced by Sarah Pfeffer '13 while she was doing an internship with the Biology Department, was selected for screening at the Beneath the Waves Film Festival during the Benthic Ecology meeting in Florida. Project *Limulus* is an ongoing citizen monitoring effort for horseshoe crab populations. The film includes photos by Tracy Deer-Mirek, assistant director of Communications at SHU. In addition to the screening of Pfeffer's film, Professors Jennifer Mattei, Mark Beekey, Michele Guidone and LaTina Steele presented at the Benthic Ecology meeting.

In other good news for Project *Limulus*, Beekey and Mattei recently received funding from Connecticut Sea Grant at the University of Connecticut. They were among four grant recipients for the years 2014–2016 and will be given a total of \$103,650 over this two-year period. Connecticut Sea Grant has a partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and gives grants to those working to help identify the needs of maritime industries and coastal communities and to fund research, outreach and educational activities that have special relevance to Connecticut's shoreline communities and Long Island Sound. The two professors will use the grant for their research on juvenile horseshoe crabs.

> [Watch Sarah Pfeffer's film on Project *Limulus*](#)



Sarah Pfeffer

Keep in touch!

Share your news and events by submitting a class note.

visit: <http://alumni.sacredheart.edu> and click on class notes or email your notes to alumni@sacredheart.edu



1971

Frances Rabinowitz has been named interim superintendent of Bridgeport Public Schools. Previously, she served as superintendent of schools in Hamden.

1975

Rev. Rita B. Nelson, a retired Episcopal priest, has been appointed by Delaware Governor Jack Markell to serve on the Child Placement Review Board. This board reviews every child in foster care each year

with the goal of achieving residential permanency in a safe environment.

1986

Dr. Julia E. Antoine is an award-winning children's book author. She has just published the sixth installment of her informative children's series, *Too Clever*.

1987

Jeanne Boyer Roy (MBA) is the director of client engagement for

Old Saybrook's Harvest Development Group.

1997

Mike Donnelly was named Northeast 10 Conference Coach of the Year. He is head coach of the men's basketball team at Southern Connecticut State University.

2004

Meghan and Chris Skelton are teaching fitness with a chiropractic mindset at their new facility, Synergy of Sport Fairfield.

2008

Brian Fitzsimmons has accepted the position of sports editor at AOL. Previously, he worked at MSG Varsity.

Shaun Mitchell ('09 MAT) is the 2014 recipient of the Theodore & Margaret Beard Excellence in Teaching Award. Mitchell currently teaches at Central High School in Bridgeport.

2009



Mike Kmetz is a member of the Offshore Group of the International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots. He last sailed as third mate of the *M/V Mississippi Enterprise*, a U.S. flag bulk carrier engaged in the transportation of food aid cargoes to ports in Africa and Asia.

2010

Nicole Gerosa ('12 MACJ) has been appointed a police officer for the town of Fairfield. She also coaches lacrosse at Staples High School in Westport.

Khalil N. Graham (MAT) has been named founding principal of IDEA Walzem College Prep, a public charter school in San Antonio, Tex.

Douglas Wade '77, Owner of Wade's Dairy

As the fourth-generation owner of Wade's Dairy in Bridgeport, Douglas Wade '77 enjoys giving back to his community. His great-grandfather, Frank Henry Wade, started Wade's Dairy in 1893, delivering milk to home delivery customers. Today, Wade's Dairy provides schools, health care establishments, corporations, delis and convenience stores with fresh milk, cream, butter, eggs, ice cream and related food products.

Wade earned a degree in business management from the University while working at his family's business. Since then, he has grown the family business while participating in numerous charity events and organizations such as the Fairfield Half Marathon, Swim Across the Sound, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, Connecticut Challenge and Alpha Community Services. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Bridgeport Regional Business Council, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport and the Juneteenth of Fairfield County organization, and was recently honored by President Obama for his advocacy on raising the minimum wage.



Wade's Dairy co-owners and siblings Doug Wade, right, and Susan Warner.

A Shelton native, Wade is proud of the community in which he works and has raised three sons. Two of them, Ryan and Andrew, are preparing to carry on the family business.

Photo by Autumn Driscoll, Connecticut Post



Rising Opera Star Allegra De Vita '11

Allegra De Vita '11 has been busy since earning a degree in neuroscience from the University. After graduation, she attended Rice University to study vocal performance and performed in four operas there. She also sang Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby* and Nerone in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* with the Aspen Opera Theater. Recently, she sang the alto solo in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Naples Philharmonic in Florida. De Vita also won the grand prize of \$6,000 and was named the gold medalist in voice at the Young Texas Artists Music Competition.

A Trumbull native, De Vita continues to travel widely for performances. Upcoming U.S. appearances include a trip to Lexington, Ky., to sing the alto solo in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and to Santa Fe, N.M., to participate in the Santa Fe Opera apprentice program.

De Vita also traveled to Florence, Italy, through a scholarship fund from Rice University's Margaret C. Pack Language Institute for Singers. There, she studied Italian and sang in her master classes with Renée Fleming, who recently performed the National Anthem at the Super Bowl, as well as with Joyce DiDonato, Sasha Cooke, Patrick Summers and Dolora Zajick.

2011

Lauren Gruchala ran the London Marathon on April 14, 2014, in support of cancer research.

Kathryn Hann is the recipient of the St. Francis Hospital Nightingale Award. The award recognizes nurses who go above and beyond the call for patient care.

2012

Kaitlin Rochler is the head coach of women's lacrosse at Westhill High School in Stamford.

2013



Marcel Subey, a technical logistics assistant for NBC, worked in Sochi, Russia, for the 2014 Winter Olympic Games.

Engagements

Anne Archer ('10, '12 MBA) to **Josh Heenan** ('09).

Rebecca Calderon ('09) to **Aaron Katz**.

Kelly Conlon ('09) to **Nick Valentino** ('08).

Jessica Cline ('11, '12 MAT) to **Jim Curran** ('11, '12 MAT).

Rory Colford ('07, '08 MAT) to **Peter Sasso**.

Nicole Gomes ('09, '10 MAT) to **Brett Connor**.

Maureen Hohn ('07) to **Joey Henley** ('07, '09 MAT).

Nora Murphy ('06) to **Christopher Connerty** ('06). They will wed in Massachusetts in September.

Jacqueline Stephens ('08, '10 MSOT) to **Christopher Carr** ('10, '12 MAT).

Robin Zucaro ('09) to **Christopher Wolpert** ('08).

Births



John James Leopoldi

Erin (Anderson) Leopoldi ('08) and **Michael Leopoldi** ('09) welcomed their son **John James Leopoldi** on November 3, 2013.

Erin (Herits) Wauters ('05) and **Robert Wauters, M.D.** ('05) welcomed their first child, **Jack Wauters**, on January 28, 2014. The family is living in Silver Spring, Md. Erin is working as a speech language pathologist in Bethesda, and Robert (Lieutenant, Medical Corps, United States Navy) is a battalion surgeon with the 2nd Marines Logistics Group out of USMC Camp Lejeune.

Kathleen and Jim Daly ('07) welcomed their first son, **James Michael Daly**, on May 24, 2014.



Jack Wauters

Marriages

Emily Lupica ('07) and **David Brede ('08)** were married on October 19, 2013.

Danielle Pannese ('01) wed Jason Dinerman on January 17, 2014, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Mary Schultz ('09) married Matthew Dondarski on July 20, 2013, at St. Casimir's Church in Newark, N.J. **Elizabeth Billings ('10)** was maid of honor, while **Kelli Cooper ('10)** and **Kaysea McLay ('11)** served as bridesmaids. The couple resides in New Mexico.

Charlene Sliger ('05) wed Conor Farrell in March 2014.



Lisa Attina ('05, '06 MAT) wed **Joe Matrale ('08)** in Somerset, N.J., on February 16, 2014. Lisa and Joe celebrated this momentous occasion with 15 of their closest friends from SHU.



Colleen Carney ('08, '10 MAT) married **Patrick Cannon ('06)** on July 13, 2013, in Garrison, N.Y. Many Sacred Heart alumni were in attendance.

IN MEMORIAM

— WE REMEMBER OUR FALLEN PIONEERS —

1967

James John Capinera, Jr.

1971

Joseph Louis Battistelli

1972

John "Vic" Hudzina
James Keane
Joseph N. Pavia

1977

Jesse Arnold Roebuck

1978

Joseph A. Fiordelisi
Helen I. (Hartz) Luedke, III

1980

Barbara (Sherburne) Van Cisin

1984

Thomas Wayne Harman
Richard Harrison
Lynda T. (Checca) Lewis

1985

Anne Richard

1987

Eugene A. Pate

1990

Tamara "Tammie" Zoss

1991

Jennene A. Bach, MBA

1992

Lenore C. (Frazier) Daninhirsch, MAT

1997

David Saadatmandi, MBA

1999

Bruce Tolle, MBA

2007

Kristen (Belancik) Adamowicz